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THE NEHEMIAH CLEVELAND HOUSE.

As remodelled by Upjohn, the architect of Trinity Church, New York. Taken down in 1873.
From a photograph made about 1865 showing Mr. and Mrs. Cleaveland and Miss Harriet McEwen Kimball,
the poetess (seated at right).

THE
HISTORICAL
COLLECTIONS
OF THE
TOPSFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

VOL. XXIII

1918

TOPSFIELD, MASS.
PUBLISHED BY THE SOCIETY.

1919

GEORGE FRANCIS DOW

Editor

THE PERKINS PRESS

Topsfield

MASS.

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OFFICERS
OF THE
TOPSFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

1917

PRESIDENT

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ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE SECRETARY OF THE
TOPSFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY
FOR THE YEAR ENDING DEC. 31, 1917.

The membership of the Topsfield Historical Society on December 31, 1917 was 264. Twenty-seven new members have been elected during the year, two have resigned and four have died, viz:—Wilton F. Bucknam of Stoneham, Miss Mary N. Cleaveland of Salem, C. Harry Shoemaker of Orleans, and Frank W. Ward of Danvers.

Four regular meetings have been held at which papers were read by Leone P. Welch, Mrs. George W. Towne and the Secretary. The annual supper was given at the November meeting, 49 being present, and a highly successful field meeting took place at "The Colleges," on July 21st, through the courtesy of Mr. Thomas Emerson Proctor who also provided refreshments. Members were present from as far distant as Worcester.

Volume XXII of the Historical Collections has been completed and distributed and 32 pages of Volume XXIII have been printed.

Mr. Sheahan, the custodian of the Parson Capen house, has recently notified us of his intention to again engage in war service and consequently the rooms on the second floor will be vacated, and a new custodian secured. During the year a new hardwood floor has been laid in the kitchen, much repapering and painting has been done; doors have been equipped with screens and a Pyrene fire extinguisher has been purchased. Everything now is in first class condition.

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE FRANCIS DOW,

Secretary.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TREASURER

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TREASURER

OF THE

Topsfield Historical Society

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DEC. 31, 1917

RECEIPTS

Jan. 1, 1917. Balance cash on hand	\$ 12	
Received from annual dues	134 00	
Hist. Colls. sold	24 50	
" " bindings sold at .30c.	11 10	
" " bindings sold at .35c.	25 55	
Gift from a Friend	2 00	\$197 27
		<hr/>

PAYMENTS

Printing, Hist. Colls., Vol. 22	\$121 40	
Binding, " " "	39 55	
Printing, " " 23 (on acct.)	13 22	
Expenses at annual meeting	1 85	
Deficit on transportation at Field Meet.	4 00	
Record book	2 00	
Postage and express	7 93	
Misc. printing, notices, etc.	6 25	\$196 20
		<hr/>
Balance cash on hand Jan. 1, 1918		1 07
		<hr/>

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE FRANCIS DOW,

Treasurer.

Approved,

W. PITMAN GOULD,

Auditor.

Topsfield Historical Society

TREASURER'S REPORT ON THE BUILDING FUND

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DEC. 31, 1917.

RECEIPTS

Jan. 1, 1917	Balance cash on hand	\$72 97	
	Dividends U. Shoe Mach. Co.	84 00	
	Extra dividend " (also rec'd stock div. of 4 shares)	41 00	
	Sale of stock rights	4 63	
	Rent of Capen house (Mr. Sheahan)	120 00	\$322 60

PAYMENTS

Interest on note	\$80 00	
Repairs, hardwood floor, papering, painting, screen door, sash, etc.	94 87	
Repairs on water supply	25 61	
Pyrene fire extinguisher	8 02	
Taxes	12 60	
Deficit on annual supper and transportation	15 05	
Insurance	6 25	\$242 40

Balance cash on hand Jan. 1, 1918.	\$80 20
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On hand 45 shares U. Shoe Mach. Co common stock (market value 42)	\$2,290 00
Less note \$1,600. at 5 per cent.	\$1,600 00

Value of Fund	\$690 00
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Parson Capen house and 1 1-5 acre land (cost)	\$2,100 00
Restoration and furnishings	\$2,461 12
	\$4,561 12

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE FRANCIS DOW,

Treasurer.

Approved,

W. PITMAN GOULD,

Auditor.

THE PARSON CAPEN HOUSE IN THE GREAT WAR.

During the summer of 1914 there came to the Parson Capen house a man who was so taken with its beauty and charm that he came there to live. Like the Parson he was a son of Harvard. He also had lived in France and loved the land and its people. War burst upon Europe and France called to her aid all those who love Liberty and Honor. The months passed by and soon the dweller in the manse found himself in France, a volunteer in the American Ambulance Corps and there, at Bois le Pretre and at Verdun, for nine months he served for France and civilization. Meanwhile the Capen house often sheltered the women of the town as they worked for the French wounded and its huge fireplaces warmed the busy fingers that wrought the supplies needed by the soldiers in the trenches and the figures lying on the white cots. The dweller in the manse returned. Another summer passed and once more the dweller sailed away. This time at the direction of the Secretary of the Navy to learn the story of the American fleets on foreign service. It was his to share the life of the guardians of the sea, to patrol both above and below the waters, and to witness the tragic end of a German submarine. Safely home again he told the story that the deeds of his countrymen might not be forgotten.

And so the spirit of Parson Capen, who bravely opposed superstition in the fearful days of 1692, again came into a struggling world and his old home was glad.

"How lonely my old house must be when the winter storms surge round it at midnight. How the great flakes must swirl round its ancient chimney, and fall softly down the black throat of the fireplace to the dark, ungarnished hearth. The goblin who polished the pewter plates in the light of the crumbling firebrands has gone to live with his brother in a hollow tree on the hill. But when you come to Topsfield, the goblin himself, red flannel cap and all, will open the door to you as the house's most honored and welcome guest."*

*From a letter of Henry Beston Sheahan to his soldier godmother, Miss Mabel Davison, in "*Friends of France*," Boston, 1916.

JOURNAL OF A JOURNEY THROUGH THE
MIDDLE AND SOUTHERN STATES IN 1831-2.

BY EZRA TOWNE.

Ezra Towne, whose wanderings in the western country are recorded in the following pages, was the son of Jacob and Mary (Perkins) Towne and was born in Topsfield, Oct. 17, 1807. He was educated in the public schools of Topsfield and attended the Topsfield Academy of which his father was a trustee. In addition to the journey here described, while yet a young man he again travelled south through Virginia and the Carolinas to Louisiana. This time he sold patent rights. Later, he travelled westward through Michigan, Illinois and Missouri. For thirty years, he was engaged in business in New York City and returned to Topsfield in 1866, where he served his town and parish in various offices. He married Julia R. Stone of Marlboro, N. H., and died Feb. 4, 1882 in Topsfield, leaving four children. The following journal is abstracted in some what condensed form, from the original manuscript in possession of his son Edward S. Towne of Westboro, Mass.

On the 6th October (Thursday) 1831, I left home (Topsfield, Mass.) for somewhere, destination undetermined, with a small bundle of clothes, consisting of shirts and stockings, and the suit which I wore. I started with about \$70 in my pocket. I rode to Charlestown with my brother, whom I left on the Warren Bridge. Till this time I had not begun to count the cost of leaving my old

home—it had seemed a pretty affair to set off to travel in distant places and I had no fears or misgivings of any kind. I went into Boston and after a little effort succeeded in getting my small stock of money exchanged for U. S. Bank notes. Between 3 and 4 o'clock in the afternoon I set off to walk to Dedham, about 10 miles, intending to start early in the morning and walk to Providence in time for the steamboat for New York.

As I passed down Washington street I began to consider seriously what I was doing and where I was going. I had before had an indefinite idea of going to the western country and engaging in teaching school or some other employment—but now I felt heartily sick of any such thing—now I wished I had remained at home content and happy—but the green hills of my home had disappeared in the distance and here was I hurrying through the busy street against my present will as if urged on by a demon—who can describe the tortures I felt as my legs were fast carrying me out of the city. Oh! for an excuse to return—anything that would have allowed me to linger—an accident would have been hailed with pleasure, a broken leg would not have been objected to. If such had been the case, an effectual cure for my propensity to travel would have been the result, as I was sufficiently tired of the undertaking. But no accident came and I passed on through Roxbury to Dedham, which I reached before dark.

It was my intention to walk to Providence but having on a new pair of boots my feet were sore before I reached Dedham and I felt determined to take stage. After a little time I felt comparatively at home at the tavern, and in conversation, forgot a considerable part of my troubles. Soon after 6 o'clock in the morning 5 or 6 stages drove up with passengers—we breakfasted and then set out by stage for Providence. I took an outside seat to be able to see the country; which is hardly worth seeing, being rather poor land, and not well cultivated. We passed through Attleboro, a small village, but where they have built taverns on a large scale. We reached Providence about noon and drove immediately to the boat which lay at the lower extremity of the town on Providence river.

The boat left soon after we reached it—its name was the “Benjamin Franklin,” I think—it was the first steam boat I had seen and I felt a curiosity to see its machinery, &c. The boat was large and neat, and I examined every part that is thrown open to travelers. When I paid my fare (\$6 and found) I was asked if I had selected a berth—as I had not, they put one down for me and told the number. Soon after leaving Providence we took dinner, which was served up in good style and abundance, with plenty of fruit of various kinds. The mince pie was so strong of brandy or wine that I really felt it after eating. Leaving Newport we passed by the fort (Adams?) in a dilapidated state, said to be the largest in the U. S.

In the early part of the evening we partook of an excellent supper, after which some took to cards, some to talking, and some to walking on the deck. At early dawn I was up to catch a glimpse of the vicinity of New York—we were near Hell Gate and when we passed the water was in great commotion—boiling and eddying, and rushing eastwardly with great rapidity.

In a short time the spires of New York appeared with extensive masses of brick walls. Before reaching the city you pass many beautiful country seats perched by the side of the river and surrounded by trees. As you pass along you will perceive that the eastern part of the city is the place appropriated to ship-building, the dry dock, &c. A little farther on and you enter between New York and Brooklyn, passing the Navy Yard on your left, then the houses stretching from the river to the heights, while on the New York side the buildings become higher and thicker and the shipping more numerous, till you pass a forest of masts and cordage.

Our boat passed merrily on by vessels at anchor in the stream and shot across the little ferry boats that ply between New York and Brooklyn. We passed around Castle Garden, the old circular fort, which is at the end of the Battery, the southern extremity of New York, and passed into the noble Hudson, on whose broad, tranquil surface floated many a vessel and steamboat, and landed a little above the Battery. Here were hack-drivers and porters

clamorous to be patronized, and a scene of confusion ensued, which I had never seen before. In a few minutes I landed, having been on the boat about 17 hours, and without making any enquiries pushed up into the heart of the city. I soon came into Broadway, a beautiful avenue 3 miles in length, straight and wide, far exceeding anything I had seen before, which at that early hour was not much thronged. Stepping into a public house and looking in a directory, I inquired for the street to which I wanted to go and in a short time reached the corner of Duane and Broadway. Here I stayed from Saturday the 8th, to Tuesday the 18th October, which gave me an opportunity to look about the city.

I visited all parts of the city and was struck with its vast extent and the great amount of business done. Pearl street and others adjoining were literally blocked up with boxes and carts, the boxes marked for almost all parts of the United States. Generally speaking, the blocks of buildings were not so large and continuous as in Boston, nor are there such large ranges of stores as on the wharves in Boston, neither are the conveniences for lading and unloading vessels so great as there. The piers are narrow and extend but a short distance into the river. Most of the heavy shipping business is carried on from the East river, though considerable is done from the North river side, and it is increasing fast. Water street used to be the lower street bordering on the east, but now it is filled in so as to admit 2 blocks between Water street and the river, and we might expect the river to be still farther encroached upon, but the current is too rapid to admit of its being made much narrower.

On Saturday night, the 15th, there was a row at the Park Theatre. On Sunday evening there was another. At least 10,000 people assembled in the Park and streets by the Theatre. There was a tremendous noise, made chiefly by boys, the lamps in front of the building were broken, but little other damage.

October 18th, Tuesday, started for Albany in the steam boat "North America" about 7 o'clock in the morning. Except at the most important landings, a boat is sent out

from the steam-boat with the passengers and baggage. A hawser is attached to the small boat and as the steam-boat shuts off steam and keeps on its way slowly, the line is let out, and the boat run ashore, when baggage is thrown out and in, and passengers jump as quick as possible; the line is then drawn in and the boat runs with great velocity to the steam boat, a ladder of steps is let down from the side of the steam boat, they climb in, the small boat is hoisted on its cranes, and the steam-boat, which has not lost its forward motion, is now driven forward with the accumulated steam. It is done with exceeding quickness.

Arrived at Albany about 8 o'clock in the evening. No sooner had the boat struck the dock than numerous runners from the different Hotels, most of them having cards, rushed on board the boat and distributed them amongst the passengers, great confusion prevailed. I seized my bundle and found my way to a public house. Here I wrote home that I was not homesick and was going westerly, and if they had anything particular to write to send to Buffalo; hoping they would write me to return. After dinner I went to the Post Office and in climbing the hill to the railroad, I found a something clinging to me to hold me back. I reached the railroad and casting a long and anxious glance to the hills of the east, bade farewell, and set my face towards the western wilds, utterly destitute of having any place in view. Soon as the cars were in motion the novelty of the thing, never having seen a railroad before, put an end to my musings, and I felt quite happy. Our way led through a sandy, poor country. The engine drew 6 cars containing probably about 100 passengers, we were about 45 minutes in going over about 12 miles. They stopped half way to take in wood and water, so we were in motion about 37 minutes; some of the way we traveled at the rate of 25 miles an hour; rapid travelling, fare 50 cts. Schenectady is a small town and has an old appearance at first sight.

We arrived but a little before night, and went immediately on board a line boat for the west—fare one cent a mile and board myself—or 2 cents and found. I chose the former. A number of boats were ready to start and run-

ners were active as usual. Just before dusk we left on a brisk walk and sometimes trot, with 3 horses, (a great show of horses is made to get passengers on board with the assurance that the boat with so many horses will get through quicker than any one else), which in the morning was reduced to two.

October 21st. In passing up the canal, which is in the valley of the Mohawk river, there is much to interest. The settlers seem to be mostly Dutch, and without many of the conveniences, which other people in similar circumstances would like to have. There were about 30 passengers on board the boat. Our berths were part fixed in the side of the boat and part were suspended by ropes, one above another. I felt very much at ease in the company and even happy at the novel mode of travelling and finding others going from place to place like myself.

Whenever any one wished, the boat was steered toward the bank and he could jump ashore and walk upon the tow path, or through the fields, and when he wanted to ride again the boat would be steered to the bank again or he could let himself down from some bridge, great numbers of which are thrown across the canal, and some are so low that they almost brush the deck. Many accidents have happened in consequence of their lowness.

Soon as we came to the first lock, the passengers all jumped ashore, and walked along on the tow-path, calling at the numerous eating shops, to wait till the boat had passed through the 3 or 4 locks and attained the next level, a work of something like half an hour. Jumping on board again, we soon forgot our adventures of the day in sleep. During the day and in the night, we met many boats,—they pass each other with ease, passing to the right.

October 23rd. I left the boat at Nine Mile Creek (Carmillers) 79 miles west of Utica on Sunday morning, and walked to Marcellus about 7 or 8 miles. Here I had a letter to Mr. C. Moses, with whom I staid till Monday afternoon. The forenoon was rainy and when I left in the afternoon the roads were slippery and muddy beyond anything I had seen before. The soil is deep and rich and large crops are obtained. As I passed along the

farmers were threshing wheat by machines, using generally 4 horses. Some of them pretended to thresh 3 to 400 bushels per day, of wheat. The dirt thrown from wells 20 feet deep is said to bear as good crops as the soil on the surface. It is of a mulatto or yellowish cast.

Passing through Skaneateles and Auburn, the next day I arrived at Port Byron, where I arrived at the canal and jumped on board a crazy old boat, occupied by a pedlar of earthen ware. His boat was drawn by one poor old horse. He was a comical chap and told some stories relative to shares in peddling. I rode with him to Clyde, when he stopped to dispose of wares, or take more on board; and then I walked to Newark, 18 miles in $3\frac{1}{2}$ hours. I stopped at Mr. Henry Perkins to whom I had a letter from cousin Joseph. He is a curious kind of a man, full of jokes and fun; he kept a small grocery, and seemed to live comfortably.

October 27th, Thursday, in the afternoon I left Newark in a boat for Rochester, no boat having come along in the day time since I stopped. On board was a German family consisting of a man, his wife and four children, one a very interesting girl of 17 or 18 years. They were said to be wealthy and going to settle in Michigan. No one of them could speak a word of English. Arrived at Rochester on the 28th early in the morning. It was quite cold, ice had formed in the canal. I took an excellent breakfast in an eating house for 15 cents.

I dined with General Gould, whom I found to be a very pleasant man, and jumped on board a canal boat for Buffalo about 4 o'clock in the afternoon. About sunset on the 29th we arrived at Lockport. This is a curious place. The town is built mostly on the high ground above the locks. In approaching we passed into a deep ravine, which we followed for considerable distance till we reached the locks. There are 2 sets of locks, one used for ascending and the other for descending boats. There are 5 in each set rising 12 feet each or 60 feet in all. They are built of stone in a handsome and durable manner. At the head the stones bear an inscription to the genius and memory of De Witt Clinton and others, who projected and constructed the

canal. While the boat was locking up, which took a half hour or more, we were diverted by an interesting dog and bear fight in the street.

Tippling is a great business here, judging from the number of the shops. Lockport is a small town but growing rapidly and will become a manufacturing place of importance, especially for flour. It was nearly dark when we left Lockport, to wend our way to the lake. In a short time we came to where the canal had been cut out of the solid rock. High walls were on each side of us, and by the glimmering of the boat's lights we could see the sparkling surface, and the traces of the drill on the rock. The cut extends about 3 miles, and in some places is, I believe 30 ft. deep. On the elevated level the canal is supplied with water from a creek or river which empties in Niagara River. Before reaching Black Rock it enters the Tonawanda Creek, and creeps along to the lake, when it turns, and runs near the lake, to Buffalo.

October 30th, Sunday, I awoke in port, and going upon the deck, caught the first view of Buffalo quietly stretching up the hill. Our boat hauled up by the side of a steamboat, about to leave for the west, to put on board sundries belonging to a pedlar, who had others in some of the western states to deal out his wares. The boat was well loaded with freight and passengers. I remained on board the canal boat during the day and night, as we had very comfortable and quiet quarters.

I put up at a house near the landing. Our fare was excellent, at $12\frac{1}{2}$ cents a meal, and I had a good bed. Provisions of all kinds appeared to be plenty and cheap, which had been the case all the way from Albany. On the canal I fared upon the best, at a very low rate. In the morning of November 2, [1831] I was startled before breakfast by the ringing of the steamboat bell, and it was announced that it would leave for Detroit and intermediate places in half an hour. So paying my bill, without waiting for breakfast, I hastened to the Post Office, half a mile distant, to seek a line from home, in which I was disappointed. I went on board the boat between 7 and 8 o'clock. It was heavily laden with goods, the guards were

filled, leaving only narrow passage ways about the deck of the boat, and these were crowded with beings of all complexions and from almost all nations. The morning was cold and a wet and a brisk wind came down the lake. The steam was up and preparations seemed to be making to leave immediately. After an hour or two the passengers became quite clamorous to leave, and about 10 or 11 o'clock the lines were loosened and the boat put off into the stream.

Expectation was on tiptoe when suddenly the boat was anchored, and communication with the shore cut off. In this situation we remained till 4 o'clock in the afternoon, rendering all of us most uncomfortable.

About 4 in the afternoon they raised steam again, and at the urgent solicitations of passengers, either to land, or go on, the boat was put off into the lake. The waves run 4 or 5 feet high and caused the boat to pitch considerably. Our progress was slow, and the boat was anchored under a little point on the Canada shore 10 or 12 miles from Buffalo, the Captain declaring it impossible to go any farther. The waves came round the point, and kept the boat rolling and pitching all night. There were about 200 passengers, of whom, probably two thirds were sick during the night. The cabin was strewed with passengers, sick or sleeping on the floor. I was obliged to walk the deck considerable to prevent being sick, but occasionally, visited the cabin to warm myself, and the forward cabin to see what was going on there. This was a rather low, dark place, with a little light, with berths in the sides. Near its end was a stove, around which were a few young Americans, keeping a good fire to neutralize the stench that filled the room. The berths were full and the floor was strewed as thick, that it was difficult to get along. Here were the old and young, German, Swiss, Negro, and everything huddled together, and as a very large proportion were seasick, I found it desirable to breathe no oftener than necessary, and soon made my exit, into the pure but cool air. Taking a chair, toward the stern of the boat, I slept about 2 hours. About daylight on the morning of November 4th, we got under weigh, and though the wind

had subsided, the waves tossed the boat some. Running on in the middle of the lake, the shores in the distance appeared to be covered with woods. About sunset we arrived off Erie and passengers were rowed a long distance to the landing.

From Erie I dispatched a paper home, and having taken passage in the stage for Pittsburg, I retired to sleep rocking with the motion of the steamboat, I had quitted. About 3 in the morning, with 8 others, we set out in the stage, it raining fast.

It was very dark, and after proceeding a few miles, and when we were all drowsy, we were startled by coming to a halt. Our driver had got sleepy and had driven out of the road, and a huge stump stopped the wheel horses, which the leaders had passed over. Here we got out in mud and after some little time succeeded in getting right again. After this we got on tolerably well, calling "driver" occasionally to keep him awake. The road was so deep, that at the little town where we breakfasted, a light wagon was obtained and three of us took passage in that for a dozen miles. It had stopped raining. Large masses of clouds moved over us, and mists hung by the side of every hill. The men seemed to be of large stature and good livers. The land seemed very rich and productive and yielded everything one could wish in abundance.

A little after noon we came to Meadville, a small town among the hills, with its college. Passing on, we came to some swampy land, which had been laid with rails for the road, technically called a "railroad." The jotting was very severe, especially where the rails had been broken through. We continued riding all night, and till 11½ o'clock on November 5th, Saturday, at night. This day we frequently noticed the coal-pits, which entered the hills by the side of the road, and from which they get a considerable part of their fuel, though there is wood enough. We passed some poor land. Our entrance to Pittsburg was over a most villainous road, and we were in continual fear of upsetting. Our company was very pleasant. There were two young men from the western part of New York

who were going to Lexington, Ky. to teach. There were two or three ladies also in the coach. We took four meals only on our way from Erie to Pittsburg.

Pittsburg is a place of great business, especially in iron work. A good many steamboats are built here—their machinery made—glass blown, &c.—and a good many goods sold. It is a thriving town. It is situated in the forks of the river on the flat land at the base of a high hill. The houses are blackened by the smoke which hovers over and falls upon them from the chimneys and the iron foundries. I went on the hills that overlook the city, and while around the air was clear and beautiful a dense smoke lay below me which obscured a part of the town, the leaves and fruit on the trees on the hills are covered with soot.

November 7th, Monday, about 6 o'clock in the evening we set out in a steamboat for Cincinnati. After running about 30 miles they anchored, on account of the fog, it had been so dark and thick that we couldn't observe anything distinctly on the shores.

The immediate valley of the Ohio is narrow, it being completely hemmed in by high hills, except where a tributary comes in, sundering the chain of hills. Frequently the river runs close under a hill of 300 or 400 feet high, while on the other side the level land stretches away for half a mile, to the opposing hills, laid out in good farms. The hill sides are covered in a few cases with woods, but a large part have been cleared and the wood floated to Cincinnati; and now the coal pits are numerous; entering the hill horizontally, high from the river, they soon strike the coal, which they bring out on little cars, and tip into a slide, or send the cars down a little railroad to the river.

The lime-kilns are numerous. The farm houses and everything about them, do not indicate the thrift that one might expect to see on the rich bottom lands of the Ohio. The houses are generally poor, and the troops of children on the banks of the river, watching the boat as it glides swiftly past, demonstrate that not much pains are taken to keep them clean, or decently clad.

Our boat called for passengers wherever a signal was made. We took in wood about twice a day, generally from a flat boat, which was moored by the bank.

November 10th, Thursday, between 1 and 2 o'clock, we emerged from the narrow valley into a circular plain surrounded by high hills, when Cincinnati burst suddenly to view. It is about 60 feet above low water mark. Our boat wheeled around, and with its bow upstream landed at the landing, amongst other steamboats and river craft. The landing is paved to low water mark, and is 1000 ft. in length by the river. It presents an animated appearance, being covered with passengers, and drays. I soon found my way to a boarding house, and then took a stroll through the city. There are a number of market houses, open and exposed to the weather, which are generally well supplied with substantial food. Fruit is very plenty and good. Garden vegetables are cheap. Meats are low, as also is flour and other necessities. The countrymen come in with covered wagons, drawn by horses, and back their wagons, by the hundred, against the sidewalk, take off their horses, tie them to the forward end of the wagon, and in the latter part of the evening themselves crawl into the wagon and sleep till morning, so they can be with their produce and save expense. Sometimes they occupy a long space on each side of the market streets.

Having made arrangements for going to Tennessee, in company with a young man, we spoke passage on board the "76" steamboat, bound to New Orleans, we taking passage to the mouth of the Cumberland river. It was late in the season and getting cold, but from their anxiety to get all the freight possible, they put off leaving Cincinnati till the 27th, getting up steam every day to render passengers quiet. At length toward noon on the 27th November, we left in the old boat heavily laden with produce, doomed to suffer more than we had formed an idea of. In the night there was a small fall of snow, which rendered it difficult for the pilot to see the shores. On the 28th toward night, we arrived at Louisville. There was some little snow, and it being cold, the place seemed most cheerless and desolate. The water was so low in the river that the boat was obliged to go through the canal.

December 1st, [1831] Thursday, got up stream once more, and we left in the forenoon full of the hope that we should soon get into a warmer climate. The boat had been kept two days through mere shiftlessness, when the cold and low stage of the water might have taught any one that the river must soon close. Off they started with the flatboat in tow with its load fully exposed to the weather, and which was now frozen and worthless. Its owners were deck passengers taking it to the southern country, and in vain did they remonstrate with the Captain for exposing their property in this manner.

December 2 and 3, Friday and Saturday, we continued slowly without anything worthy of notice occurring, excepting getting aground a number of times, and running foul of sunken logs when going into wood yards. One day we stuck fast on a sand bar, and were unable to move for some time. All the deck passengers were obliged to get into the flat boat to lighten the steamboat, an anchor was carried into the deepest water and a turn upon the cable made, but to no purpose. The bow of the boat was then raised by placing a large timber each side of the bow, one end resting on the sand and the others meeting over the boat, a pulley was attached to the boat and the top ends of the poles or timbers and the boat raised off the bed of the river, then all the steam was applied and the boat moved half its length and then stuck fast again; again the process had to be repeated, and in two or three hours we were past the bar and in fair sailing again. On Saturday, running into a wood-yard the boat got upon a log. It run on about midships and was nearly balanced. Steam was applied to force the boat over and to back the boat off the log but for a long time in vain. At length they succeeded, and after a time we proceeded again.

Our Captain was a rough, swearing, tearing man, and at the same time very negligent and inefficient. The clerk was an overbearing Englishman, and the Pilot, a large man, was worse than either. The cook was the only decent man of the boat's crew, and much fault was found with him. The deck passengers suffered much from the weather. There were several ladies of respectable

appearance among them. The sides of the deck were open, and the cold wind whistled through keenly. They seemed a jovial, good natured set. There was a large sheet-iron fireplace, and wood was not spared. Here all the cooking for the deck passengers was carried on, by themselves, and occupied nearly all the time, day and night. Some had berths hung up, and some sat in chairs during the night by the stove. Day after day it was the same thing, and a more cheerless passage, it is difficult to conceive of. Half frozen, and vexed at the delays, the only wish expressed, was, to get through the time. There were some twenty cabin passengers, who were uneasy at the delays. The time was mostly spent in card-playing. Some of them were very jovial, especially an Englishman, a physician, who made much sport.

December 6th, Tuesday, arrived during a snow storm, at Shawneetown, a little village in Illinois. The ice was so thick and strong that it was deemed necessary to sheath the bow of the boat. The flat had been unladen the day before and dismissed service. As the boat was to lie here for the night, some of us repaired to a tavern where we found comfortable quarters for the night; snow covered the earth to the depth of three or four inches, and every one seemed shut up. There appeared to be nothing doing at Shawneetown, and a few barrels of salt at the landing gave the only indication that anything ever had been done.

December 7th, the bow having been sheathed, and a huge elm crotch hung from the bowsprit so as to break the ice, we bid adieu to the town, an hour or two before night, and proceeded down the river, amidst ice, which nearly covered the river. As was feared, the chute through which alone, the boat could pass, was choked with ice. Return to Shawneetown was deemed unadvisable, and no other course was left open but to run under the Illinois bank, which we did, and anchored in the forest and canebrake. This was about six miles below Shawneetown. The bank was near 30 feet high and almost perpendicular. In the spring the bottom land extending a mile or two from the river is overflowed with water. It

is covered with a pretty heavy growth of cotton-wood (a large tree), ash, cypress, and in some places hickory and elm, with the universal bottom-land tree, the sycamore, or button wood, with its huge trunk, of sometimes 9 or 10 feet in diameter, and though frequently hollow, being of a rind 6 or 8 inches thick, of a healthy appearance, supporting long white branches, and a top of vigorous growth. There is a large extent covered with canebrake, of from 18 inches to 8 or 10 feet in height. This is the underbrush. In some places it is so thick as to render it difficult to get through. At the joints and top are tufts of leaves, bearing a slight resemblance to small broomcorn leaves. Of these cattle are very fond and in the winter large numbers are driven into the brake, which get quite fat upon it. Hogs are likewise driven in and live upon nuts, &c. Cattle and hogs usually have a keeper, who encamps somewhere in the cane, and whose business it is to keep the cattle from straying too far, and likewise prevent their being stolen which, for all their watching is frequently done. It is warm amongst the brake, so that cattle are comfortable. Hogs have sagacity enough to break down the cane and lay it upon the trunk of some large, fallen tree, and at night creep under it. Cattle, generally, have a bell fastened so their neck, so as you pass through the forest you hear their incessant chiming, which is quite pleasing to the ear. Hogs sometime elude the search made for them. and live 6 or 7 or more years. They become a formidable animal, though they are not large. I saw one killed, which was supposed to be at least 7 years old, with tusks 3 or 4 inches long, and could not have weighed more than 200 lbs. For 2 or 3 days the ice continued to run, and as the chute continued full, a number of us hired our trunks carried to Shawneetown hoping to be able to get across the river. After making inquiries, we sent them back again, as no boat had crossed the river for a number of days, and could not on account of the ice. We were under the daily expectation that the weather would moderate, and that our boat would be able to go on. Turkeys and deer were very plenty. One day two of us went in pursuit of deer, and though we saw

a number we couldn't get near enough for a shot. Turkeys are exceedingly wild and quick of hearing, and the slightest noise in the cane would set them off upon the wing.

Another day we had but one rifle, which my companion carried. About half a mile from the boat a fine old buck came bounding along which he fired at and wounded in the back. After a while we despatched him and dragged him to the boat, where we sold it in lots for two or three dollars. The edge of the evening or early in the morning is the best time for turkeys, while they are on the trees. One man and wife were living here for the winter, and had erected a small hut, by tying some tall cane at the tops and setting the other ends out so that they formed a cone of 5 or 6 feet in height, and 7 or 8 feet in diameter. Cane was interwoven so that it was tolerably comfortable. This was all the shelter they had. Other families were living almost without shelter and those who had pretty good houses, took no pains to stop the free circulation of air from without.

At length the ice stopped moving, and the river was completely frozen over. From the 18th to the 20th the people crossed over on the ice to the Kentucky shore, which was nearly a wilderness, and where at night the wolves approached the bank and howled, in answer to the dogs on the Illinois side.

On the 20th, four of us went to Shawneetown and built a little sled, which we took down to the boat on the ice; the next day, Thursday, left the boat after breakfast. We put three trunks on the sled, and four of us bid adieu to the old steam boat and our acquaintances. The air was still and it was clear and beautiful as need be. For a time we crept along under the Illinois shore; in some places the ice was smooth, and then very rough, where pieces of ice had been driven by the current and wind, and frozen. Sometimes we stopped at the sandbars, shoals and islands, to examine the varieties of little shells, everywhere to be met with, and sometimes visited the Illinois shore, which had begun to be rugged and rocky, where were one or two small caverns, which tradition had invested with a tale, and the dilapidated walls, and remains of an

old fort. On the Kentucky shore were procons, a fine nut, of which we obtained a few. Sometimes we were startled by a tremendous cracking of the ice, which would run along by our feet, and reaching each shore, would send its echoes back from the woods. In some places we had to avoid air-holes, in others, there were fissures in the ice extending across the river. In one place we stepped across an opening a foot wide, in another, a fissure of greater width was covered, at our crossing place, by a single large cake of ice (no one knows how it came there). We saw smoke rising through the trees 5 or 6 miles below us, and, as it was drawing toward night, we made all possible haste. The ice began to grow thin, and water to appear on its surface. Before dusk, we thought it best to take the shore, which we did amidst the bending of the ice, over a depth of 20 to 40 feet water. There was no path. Our sled cut through the light snow, and drew hard. There was but little underwood, but our course was crooked to avoid the trees. The bottom was narrow and was bounded by a rocky bank or ridge. Night soon set in. The sky became cloudy, and but for the little snow it would have been very dark. Our progress was slow. At every little gully we had to clamber over large trunks of trees, with small ones intermixed, lying in every direction, and carry our sled with its load, as best we could. When we came to high ground we could draw our load again, without meeting many obstructions from fallen timber, but every low spot was filled with drift wood and timber. Finding ourselves wearied, we despatched one to find a house, and send us assistance. One took a trunk on his shoulder and the other two took the others along on the sled. When we arrived at the Tradewater, a small river of 2 or 3 rods in width and about 20 miles below Shawneetown, we found its bed deep and its banks almost perpendicular; we had hard work to get down to the river and still harder to ascend the opposite bank. Onward we went, each resolved never to run such an unnecessary risk on the ice again, or be caught, so late in the woods, with a load. Expecting assistance, we hallooed frequently, and were at

length answered by a man, who took one trunk upon his shoulder and led the way; we followed and at the end of a mile had the satisfaction to come to a small one-story log house, having but *one* room. Supper was ready soon, of which we ate heartily; it was fried fresh pork, and coarse corn bread, and coffee without sugar or milk. They were young—had been married but a little time—had a small farm, neighbors few, and no proper road nearer than from the ferry at Golconda, some miles below. We made a bargain for him to carry us out to the public road, about 9 or 10 miles distant, at the point we wished to go. He had but one bed, and put that down before the fire for us, himself and wife lying upon a straw one on the bedstead. Having built up a large fire, all four of us lay down with feet toward the fire, and as close to each other as possible.

December 23d, Friday, as early as we could, we got under way; the old horse was harnessed to a rough sled, without a net or arms; our trunks were put aboard and off we started, a few flakes of snow falling. Our road was merely a path through the woods. It led over ridges and rocks, around fallen timber and crooked to the right and left to avoid a tree. At every little descent we had to lay hold of the sled to keep it from the horse's heels. The forest was dense and almost unbroken, passing in sight of but two huts on our way to the main road. Where the land was level, it appeared good but it was much broken. It was considerably past noon when we reached the road, and for a trifle more we got our man to take us on a few miles further to a public house, "The Cross Keys", which we reached just before night. Pork, cornbread and sweet potatoes were our supper.

Leaving one to get our trunks aboard some wagon, three of us started early in the morning on foot for Nashville, 120 miles distant. This day the snow began to melt a little. We passed through Princeton, a small village, with collegiate buildings, but I could not learn that there were many students. Preparations were making on Saturday night for Christmas, which was to be spent by drinking gunning, &c.

December 25th, Sunday morning, we started off early, escaping from a gang of noisy, drinking fellows, who ushered in the day by firing off guns under the windows. About 11 o'clock we stopped for breakfast, but one of our number, learning that his uncle lived about 7 miles off, got directions and started on a cross road preferring to wait for breakfast until he should arrive there. We stayed till near one o'clock and started on the same track. Our directions were vague and so lengthy that it was impossible to follow them. However, we got the course, and, sometimes in the road, and sometimes passing through pathless woods, we at length came to the house we sought, but nothing had been seen of our companion; however, just before dark, he came in tired and hungry, having eaten nothing for the day and, from his description, having walked 17 or 18 miles to get 7, the consequence of being misdirected. Esq. Hamond was the name of the owner of the plantation, where we stayed the next day. His farm is good and of a regular and gentle descent in all directions from his buildings. He raised 1200 lbs. of tobacco to the acre. There are no small stones. It is in what is called the Barrens. The land is considered *not first rate*, but good, and the principal objection to it is the scarcity of timber, the most of the trees being very small.

December 27th, Tuesday, walked to Hopkinsville, a pretty, and large village. Our trunks had arrived and were waiting a conveyance to Nashville. The next day we walked over a level and decently good country. It was not very thickly settled. There is a great deficiency of bridges, being scarce one. The thaw had advanced so that the ice was gone and the little streams were up. We had to cross them by stepping from stone on their rocky bottoms. At night we put up at a good farm house. Our supper was good, the landlord a pleasant young man, and we spent the evening quite happily. Some time after we went to bed we heard an exemplification of slavery. A negro woman could not, or would not do something at the young man, her master, told her, upon which he dealt the blows from the whip out to her

for a long time, chasing her about the yard, the singing of the lash, reaching us in bed, together with her supplications.

December 29th and 30th, the roads were muddy, and it was slow travelling. When we reached Tennessee, the land became a little more hilly. Toward night we had the good fortune to reach the delightful town of Nashville, by crossing a lofty bridge over the Cumberland.

Monday, January 1st, 1832, weather pleasant and soon as breakfast was over, we sallied forth. The market was pretty well supplied with vegetables, the greens, &c. having just been gathered. The first week day of the year is the time of letting slaves out to work, and likewise for the sale of them. There was a considerable number sold and leased during the year. When up for sale they seemed in good spirits, and strove to make as good an appearance as possible. There was one woman and her children (four or five), all small.

January 11, left Nashville for Huntsville, Alabama, about 110 miles. For a week the weather had been changeable, some days cold and freezing, and then warm. Now it was mild and muddy. Horse teams loaded with cotton were coming into Nashville from all directions. They were heavily laden and cut the roads very much. It is the custom to ride one of the wheel horses. As we passed along we occasionally saw a yoke of oxen in harness. The near ox was honored with a saddle on which his driver rode. Some drew in a collar and traces and sometimes had a bridle with bits in the mouth. We passed through Nolensville and some other small places, a blacksmith's shop, a grocery, and a cotton gin making a *place* in Tennessee.

Early on the morning of the 15th we were on our way to Huntsville, where we arrived about 9 o'clock. It is on the plain, or a gently undulating spot. It contains 2 to 3000 people, and is built around the square, and contiguous ends of streets running from it, without anything very attractive about it.

Some of the buildings are decent, but most are rather miserable. It is the center of a rich cotton growing

district and does considerable business. It is about 10 miles from the Tennessee River, to which there is a canal. Near the center of Huntsville, is a large spring of 30 or 40 feet diameter, which throws up an enormous quantity of water. This spring feeds the canal, which, in fact starts from it. Having accomplished our errand to Huntsville, we left in a northwesterly direction. Going out of the town we were surprised at the tameness of the turkey buzzards, a bird resembling a turkey, but much smaller. Large flocks were in the yards around stables, and perched on the fences. It is the carrion bird of the South, and is protected by law, for its usefulness in removing filth, &c.

Passing along we deviated from our course, and stopped at a plantation to get our boots mended. The farm was owned by a widow woman. The house was in the center of her farm, the land sloped gently in all directions. She seemed to have a competence, and was rather pleased to have us stay during the night. Our entertainment was very good. She had two daughters, who tried to appear agreeable, but were fat squabs of ignorance, being scarcely able to read. It was very amusing to hear the old lady talk about her daughters. She had married two to Yankees, and had two more, which she came not far from offering to us. About noon, the next day, we left, our hostess refusing to take anything for our entertainment. Passing on we entered Tennessee, and on the 19th of January 1832, Thursday, I began to solicit subscriptions to several books, in Lincoln County. My first essay was very disagreeable, and I hesitated in approaching. The gentleman readily put down his name and when I went down the lane I was full of joy. I then thought it the prettiest business ever followed. After making various calls, and refusals as often, I became thoroughly sick of the business. Just at dusk I called at the house of an old gentleman and requested him to examine my prospectuses, &c.; his reply that "It was late and you can't go any farther tonight", and "there will be time enough bye and bye," and "you can go on in the morning", was made with so much simplicity and generosity, that though I under-

stood not the Tennessee character, I felt perfectly at home, and never better contented. After a good supper, apples were placed by me with the invitation to eat as many as I pleased, an invitation promptly complied with. The next morning it rained and continued to mist through the day. I had good quarters, and felt no inclination to refuse their invitation to stay till it was fair weather.

The 21st was clear and pleasant. After breakfast, shaking hands and bidding the old folks good-bye, I set out to try my luck among the inhabitants of the "Cold-water", a small river on which is considerable good land. I obtained a number of subscribers, and was everywhere cordially received. Being Saturday, as usual, a large number of toppers congregated at the stores and grog shops. To one of these I was advised to go, as I should see so many folks. I went, but from their rummy faces judged I could not do anything and soon left. I thought I should be able to reach a house, named to me, before dark, and set out on a road through the woods. By some means, I missed the way, and it was dark before I came to a house. The accommodations were pretty humble, but I concluded to stay.

January 22d, walked to meeting about 2 miles. The church was a log house, standing on an eminence in the forest, from which no house could be seen. Its seats were made by splitting a small log in halves, and inserting legs in the round side of the half log, the split side not having been smoothed very nicely, the seats were not very comfortable. The pulpit was a roughly made box. The people began to assemble in considerable numbers, riding in from all directions, where there was a small path, but no minister came. It was his regular day but he was prevented by sickness, or something. After a short consultation by a number of the head men, one who had seen me the day before, approached and invited me to officiate. I made some excuse, that I was not accustomed to public speaking, &c., but some would not believe but that I was a preacher. After a short time, we set out for home. From the looking, I was convinced I had excited quite an interest, probably because I was a stranger and

better dressed than anyone else present. I received a number of invitations to spend the night, and if I couldn't do that, to stay with them the next night. Monday I resumed my business, and in the evening put up where I had been invited. The family consisted of a man and wife and two sisters and two or three children. The house was of one story, and but two rooms, without a door between. In one room were two beds, one was allotted me, and the husband and wife occupied the other. The evening had been spent pleasantly in talking over the customs, &c. of the different sections of the country and in reading from my books. The next morning it rained, and continued through the day. In the evening it became cold and snowed. It was a log house, and not very tight, especially by the chimney, and as I sat reading to the family from various papers I had, the snow came in upon me. About 11 o'clock we retired, and although I had a fine bed and as many clothes as I could bear, before morning I awoke from the cold. It seemed that the wind came up through the floor, which was not remarkably tight, and penetrated the bed.

Clouds hung around the next morning and it was piercing cold. Soon as I got breakfast, off I started, in hopes to find a warmer house. I made but a few calls. Toward night I reached a two-storied house, where I was welcomed, and advised, and invited to stay during the night. I accepted the invitation, and felt at home by the side of a large fire. The next day being very cold, I was invited to remain as "it was too cold to travel, and I might not find comfortable quarters at night."

These two days, the 25th and 26th of January, were the coldest, almost ever known in any part of the United States. At Nashville University the thermometer stood at 18° and 20° and at Winchester, a small town near the Cumberland Mountains, at the southern part of Tennessee, at 26° below zero. The cold came suddenly, and from over the prairies of Illinois. All the people seemed pinched up by it.

Friday and Saturday, I did not do much, as the people were generally poor, and many unable to read. However

I was well treated everywhere, and the usual salutation when met at the door, "Come in stranger, and warm", still seems as fresh as when it first fell on my ear. They were universally kind, and hospitable as their circumstances permitted. A few have slaves and considerable property, but the most have small farms and do the labor themselves. The houses of the common farmers, and of some of the wealthy class, are built of logs, one story high, some with two rooms, but many with but one. Many have no windows except a hole cut through the logs about 2 feet square, with a wooden shutter, and no glass, so when they want light they have air too, this in cold weather is rather inconvenient, and as a consequence, many keep in the dark and smoke, without any light but from the fire except what creeps through the crevices, which is not a little. Then it may be, in one small room, you find a family of eight or more congregated, where cooking and sleeping are carried on together, and if a stranger calls he is accommodated with lodgings with the rest of the family.

In Tennessee all the chimneys are built outside the house, or stand out of doors. In log houses they are generally built up 5 or 6 feet with stone and mortar, and topped off with sticks laid "cob-house" fashion and plastered inside. Of two storied houses, the chimneys are built of stone or brick. When a person has an oven, it is generally built alone, about a rod from the house, and a few boards thrown over it to protect it from the weather, some, though, neglect this. Those who have slaves, build a small house or kitchen, a rod or two from their own, for the slaves to live in, and cook for their masters, so the victuals have the benefit of a trip through the open air before they are placed upon the table. The women and girls make most of the clothes they wear, except a dress for Sunday. They weave a great variety of cotton checks and stripes, some very tasty, for themselves, and jeans for the men and boys. Their living is simple but pretty good. Corn, rye and cotton are the principal crops raised, with some wheat. Slaves and their masters, on small plantations, work together. Corn was still standing in the fields, and the cotton was not all picked, As I

went around I came upon "pickings" where men and boys, women and girls had assembled from all the neighborhood to pick cotton, and have a frolic, and in every case I had a pressing invitation to join them, in eating and drinking but not to work. I always found them cheerful, and fond of telling stories and ready to hear them, and in no case do I recollect but some of them gave me strong invitations to go home with them; and expressed regret if I declined. After going to the principal people on the various "creeks" in the south part of Lincoln County, I wended my way to Fayetteville, the shire town.

About the 1st of February [1832], I crossed the Elk river in a boat, though in still waters the ice was pretty strong. Fayetteville contains 6 or 800 inhabitants, prettily situated half a mile from the river. It has some good houses. In the centre is a square, in which is the court house, as is the case in all towns in Tennessee, and a market house, in which nothing was ever carried for sale, except once a few cabbages, which the man left and ran away in despair. There are six or eight very respectable stores, four or five lawyers, and about as many physicians. At the taverns the inhabitants centre, and some seemed to spend a good deal of time in playing at backgammon, a favorite game. The weather was warm and pleasant, and springlike. After staying a few days at Fayetteville, I traversed the north part of the county. There are a number of large creeks with good land, and some wealthy men, and in general this part of the county is well settled. I got a pretty good number of subscribers.

Toward the last of February there was considerable rain, which made it necessary for me to remain a day or two, sometimes in a place, by which I found a number of pleasing acquaintances. The fare was good, poultry and eggs in abundance, pork, &c., but the standing dish is bacon. This is boiled almost every day, with turnip tops, which remain green all winter, and sometimes, potatoes. The coarse corn cake makes up the meal. Milk is the usual drink at dinner, and coffee at other meals. Honey

is plenty in most families. The women take the principal care of the cows and calves in winter, and do all the milking, which is not much however. Generally there is no shelter for the cow, but a log barn for the horses. Many farmers cut no hay, and the feed for horses and cows is cornstalks, leaves, and corn, with rye. The corn, of which they raise large quantities, is thrown into a large crib covered at the top.

The land is easily cultivated, and no small stones. Timber is of a very large growth. On the ridges the white oak and poplar attain the size of five, six or more feet in diameter; in the level and moist lands the beech is a large tree, with the sycamore and black walnut, which last is used to split into rails.

At Shelbyville I fell in company with a Vermont chart pedlar, with whom I started for Nashville. He had travelled much in the west, and was then going to Illinois. We left Shelbyville after dinner, March 15 and walked about twenty miles. The next evening we reached Nashville having travelled more than forty miles that day.

In Nashville the ladies are very good looking, with some, who are very handsome. They appear to lead an easy life, having slaves to wait upon them; they all like to make a show and it is said, some keep a carriage and live in a fashionable style, who make cakes and send little children through the streets to peddle them out, for to support them.

The meetings are well attended in the morning; not so well in the afternoon. There is a constant interruption during service by people coming in, and going out of church. There is a negro church, where there is negro preaching. Many blacks attend and belong to other churches.

While here I visited the "Hermitage". Here are 500 or 600 acres of land in a body, under cultivation, surrounded mostly by a forest. The farm contains 1300 or 1400 acres, more than half of which is woodland. The house is on a slight eminence near the east side of the open ground, from which you can see over all the fields. The

house is of brick, two stories high, with a projecting front, resting upon white pillars, and a [building] at one end for a kitchen, &c. Through its centre is a wide hall or passage way, which affords a cool resting place in the summer. Down the green, about a quarter of a mile, are the negro houses, and the stables. Here is also a small course, where the horses are trained and exercised.

Mr. Andrew Jackson, Jr., the adopted son of the General, a mild, pleasant, inoffensive young man, who had recently come from Washington, I believe, with a young wife, pointed out the grounds to me, and showed me the curiosities of the house; the swords, snuff-boxes, &c., received from government, the state, cities, &c., and puzzles and curious articles presented by ingenious workmen. I was taken through the rooms where these articles were kept, and received the history of the important ones. The grave of Mrs. Jackson was a few rods from the house in the garden, where a tomb is to be built. The house is furnished in pretty good style but nothing very dashy about it.

The General's force consists of some 40 working hands. Cotton is the staple product of his farm, and his income is considerable. He has a white man to oversee and take care of the farm and produce, and the General's cotton is somewhat noted for coming to market in good season and in good order.

I occupied the time in setting window springs and doing other things till the 24th May, when I set out in a carryall, drawn by a little, smart old horse, to deliver books, of which I carried a large box full.

Arrived at Pulaski on Saturday, June 30th [1832]. In the afternoon was a meeting of people from all parts of the county, who were willing to enlist in the war against Black Hawk. The meeting was held in the court house.

Some altercation arose between a lawyer and merchant of Pulaski, in relation to the choosing of officers at that time. At a blow from the lawyer, who occupied the Judge's Bench, the merchant returned to his store, across the square, and then went back to the court house, pre-

sented a pistol and fired at the lawyer. His arm was caught and drawn aside as he fired, but the ball struck the wall a short distance from the lawyer's head. I was passing along the square and heard the report of the pistol. The merchant ran to his store and closed the door. 200 or 300 gathered around the door but no one seemed willing to obey the sheriff to surround the house or assist him in arresting him. This broke up the meeting and the contemplated expedition. When I left town, near night, the crowd had pretty much dispersed and the merchant was sitting quite at ease in the back part of his store.

It has been my custom to go into schools, occasionally, to see how they were conducted, &c. The houses are small log huts, with holes cut through the logs for windows. There is a bench on three sides of the room, consisting of a board laid upon pins, driven into the logs. On these the scholars write during a continual springing of the board. The seats are one half a small tree, with legs put in the round side. The master sits in a rickety old chair. Books are not plenty and the only branches generally taught are reading, writing and arithmetic. They are frequently incapable of teaching either of these to any extent. The location of a school house seems to depend wholly upon there being a good spring near, a consideration that counter-balances convenience and everything else. The common people have many expressions peculiar to themselves and are amusing to strangers. The common expression is "Will you walk down to supper?" when you have only to go from the hall to a room on the same floor; and the same expression has been used, when standing out by the door, and you are to walk into the house. "Tote" is universally used for "carry", &c. I met with a great many who could not read; they would say "I am no scholar". Many interesting looking young ladies have used the expression to me, and I have seen them many a time turn the leaves of a book, like children, to "find the pictures", without being able to read the explanation of them. At almost every place I had been in

this winter and spring, I was welcomed and pressed to stay over night. Frequently, in the forenoon, I was asked to stay till the next morning.

On Sunday, I was furnished with a horse to ride to church with the family (all ride on horseback). In fact, they seemed to regard me as an old acquaintance. They are, certainly, a very hospitable and friendly people, and having a good soil, and pleasant climate, they might live happily. The principal drawback is whiskey. There is a considerable number of small distilleries, which are much frequented by the lovers of whiskey. They seem to have an idea that New England people are much smarter and more intelligent than any others, and that Boston stands at the head of cities. Whenever anything is done in a superior manner or of a better quality, they say "That is Boston". The girls are rather coquettish, and it is not uncommon for them to have a number of suitors at a time, in which they seem to glory.

July 6 [1832], passed through Fayetteville on my way to East Tennessee.

July 10th, left Winchester and rode to Pond Spring, a little place. Next morning took the "Hills Trace" road, which is but little travelled, and which leads through forest, and open ground, not much settled.

I stopped at night at a small house at the foot of the Cumberland Mountains. On the 12th left pretty early in the morning and soon began to ascend the mountain. The road is steep for two or three miles, till you reach the top. A back view presented little but forest and mountain. An old man overtook me at the top of the mountain and acted as pilot. It was about twenty miles across, and there was no guide board to point the roads at the forks, of which there were but two or three. The road is pretty level, but in some places muddy. The land is poor and cold, and mostly covered with small trees and bushes. We rode on together, and at the middle of the mountain came to a house, where we paid toll for passing on Rany's Turnpike. No more houses were seen till we arrived at the foot of the mountain. At the tavern at which I put

up, was a wedding, and I had the honor of sitting down at the wedding supper.

Descending from the mountain I stopped at the little village of Morganton, where I found a number of clock pedlars from Connecticut.

Left Athens on the 24th of July, and arrived at Tellico or Madisonville, the same day. This is a small village, and has nothing to recommend it. There was a show of animals here and the rough looking people from the mountains came in flocks to see.

After visiting Knoxville, Kinston, and Sparta, I arrived at Nashville, August 13th. On the 21st, General Jackson visited Nashville. The people were not quite so enthusiastic to see him as was to be expected, not more than 200 or 300 turned out to meet him and escort him in, nor assembled at the house, where he stopped to partake of the collation provided for him and all others, who were disposed to meet and partake. He took lodgings at the Nashville Inn, and was visited by some of his old friends, though the crowd was not [large].

August 30th [1832], left to assist in selling books at auction in Shelbyville (where, for the first time, I cried anything at auction). McMinnville (where we sold in the old court house and were obliged to sweep and clean it first, for the court houses in Tennessee are seldom closed and are the shelter in storms to cattle, sheep and pigs), and late in the evening, after the sale, repacked the remainder of our books, and at midnight (leaving a candle burning in the court house, to deter thieves), we left for the tavern, closing the doors as well as we could), and Murfreesborough. At this last place we sold two evenings. This town was the capital of the state, but Nashville held out superior attractions and members of the Legislature would assemble there. It is laid out on a magnificent scale, is well built for a small town, and probably contains 1000 inhabitants. The people are an uproarious, gambling, horse-racing, drinking set, and the most of them care more for these amusements or occupations than for books. On our way out from Nashville, we had quite an incident.

The gentleman, whom I accompanied, and I put up at an acquaintances at the "Clover Bottom", about two miles from the Hermitage. Here he swapped horses, and in the morning we set out with our new and powerful horse in our carryall, over the worst road you can well conceive, rocky, hilly, winding, with sometimes a path and sometimes none. At length, a little before nightfall, we reached a stream, some fifteen or twenty rods wide of unknown depth, to us, but which we had been told could be forded. We drove into the stream, and about half way across our horse stopped to drink and refused to go any farther. The water came into the bottom of the carryall, it ran so swift it would have been dangerous to get into the water to lead the horse, and as the current bore the foaming water by, the horse was frightened and commenced backing.

Soon we heard a voice from a man on horseback call to us that our carryall was working down stream and we should soon be over the falls into deep water, where all would be drowned together. We called to him to ride in and lead our horse out, which he did, and we arrived safe on shore, determined not to ford another stream in the same condition.

Returned to Nashville, September 15th. Having paid a last visit to my acquaintances, and taken a final ramble around the town, I left Nashville in a carryall for Cincinnati, on the 18th.

The celebrated Mammoth Cave lies about 7 miles to the northwest of Bell's Three Forks. Having obtained some directions we set out on foot with sometimes a path and sometimes without one, sometimes coming in sight of a poor little farm, where the corn and grass had to struggle for a foothold amongst the limestones, but generally following a blind path through the woods where occasionally a deer would start up, or cross our path, and after leisurely surveying us would trot away, and turkeys would stretch their necks and quickly disappear from our sight. At length we came to an open spot where was a farm, the property of a Mr. Gatewood. While dinner was pre-

paring one of the young men accompanied us to the "White Cave", a short distance from the house. Here are some very fine "petrifications" consisting of stalactites of all sizes, from a few inches in length, to ten or more feet. They are formed by water dripping from the top, from which they hang like icicles. An inch or two at the tip is transparent and white, the rest is a grey color. The small ones have a small opening through them, down which the water passes to the tips and then evaporates and deposits the small portion of stone which it had dissolved. Some reach from top to bottom. As our lights were moved about, the effect of the transparent icicles was very fine. The little pools of water in the bottom of the cave have strong petrifying properties, and wood or insects are changed in a short time to stone. After dinner we left for the cave, taking some biscuit in our pockets, two Dutch lamps and a small pail full of tallow to replenish them with.

We went southerly from the house about 100 rods to the mouth of the cave, at the foot of a steep ridge, perhaps 100 feet high. Bushes and trees grew around and it was a wild place. The mouth was 20 or 25 feet across. We descended by a winding path about 25 feet and came to a level sandy bottom. The height of the passage was about 10 feet and four or five feet wide, it having been partially walled up. At a little distance was a gate or door, which had been put there to prevent the air from circulating too much in the cave, when salt-petre was manufactured in it.

It was the 23rd September and a warm day, but the air in the cave was cooler, and rushed towards the mouth when we opened the door. Soon the passage became larger, till it was 20 to 30 feet wide, and of the same height. At a quarter of a mile we came to the vats, logs, pumps, &c., used in leaching the earth, &c.; the works extend from one quarter to one half a mile. In 1814 large quantities of salt petre were made here. The bottom of the cave is a reddish earth, this was thrown into vats, water conveyed from the outside of the cave to them,

and after the earth was sufficiently leached the lye was, by pumps, forced out to the mouth of the cave and boiled away. Salt petre was then worth fourteen cents a pound. Oxen and carts were used to draw away the leached earth, &c., and now, the tracks of the oxen and the ruts of the wheels, and the scraping of the axletree in the soft bank of earth, together with the ox trough, and corn cobs, are as fresh as if they had not been done a week. The works are in a tolerable good state of preservation. The works have not been touched since 1814. At the distance of one half a mile from the mouth, at the right hand, and nearly at right angles is the "haunted chamber". The entrance is some 12 or 15 feet from the bottom of the main cave, and a ladder is placed so you can ascend to the place of wonders. This chamber extends about two miles, is of various widths and heights; you first come to the breastworks, where fancy has formed a small ridge of earth into a breastwork for defence; you then pass on for near a mile to a number of celebrated stalactites, some of which reach from the top to the bottom of the cave; one is called the "Devil's Arm Chair". It is stone and reaches from the ground to the top of the cave. It has a sloping seat, upon which one can sit tolerably well and support his arms upon the sides, which rise above the seat; the back reaches to the roof. The "Bell" hangs from the roof by a stem 8 or 10 inches in diameter, and 5 or 6 feet from the ground assumes the shape of a bell, somewhat, and upon being struck with a stick gives a sound bearing some resemblance to a bell.

After looking at all that our guide told us was worth seeing, we turned back, and descending the ladder found ourselves in the main cave again. Its general course is south, but there are many turns. Other "chambers", as they are called, take off from the main passage, some on the right hand and some on the left; one or two have been explored 12 or 13 miles, without coming to their ends, but many have never been entered for any considerable distance; some of them pass off, abruptly, to either hand, and passing down amidst shelving rocks you pass

under the main cave and are led off in various directions. Soon after entering the cave, its dimensions were about the same as they were generally throughout, being from 25 to 30 feet wide on the ground, and of about the same height; in some places the walls are nearly perpendicular; in others they incline toward each other, and in each case the roof seems nearly flat; in other places, it seems like an arch sprung from the bottom of the cave; the walls and top seem to be one solid rock with few breaks. At the distance of a mile, perhaps, from the mouth, you come to thin stones, which have fallen from the roof. You are obliged to walk on them, and sometimes they rise in a heap 10 or more feet high, and always the roof of the cave conforms to them; when they fell, no one knows, but the roof presents a ragged appearance and some flakes seem ready to fall upon the slightest shake.

These stones reach a long distance, a number of miles, with clear spaces between them. The earth in these is a reddish, sandy soil, dry, and where it has not been trodden, it lies light. It bears the tracks of rats, which our guide said exist here in great numbers, though it is difficult to imagine what they find to eat. We saw the names of visitors written in the sand, which had been there for years, and were as perfect as if just written, except where a rat had seen fit to tread. In conformity with custom, we each wrote our names in the sand, and affixed the date and our places of residence, which, except wantonly destroyed, will remain legible for ages. Four miles from the entrance is the "Cross Rooms", a wonderful place. Here is a space of at least 100 feet in diameter and 60 to 80 feet high, the roof supported by two huge pillars. The one nearest the middle of the space is, perhaps, 6 feet square and the masses of rock of which it is composed, lay in tolerable order upon each other; the other, near one side, is 10 or 12 feet through, and consists of these great masses of stone piled upon each other in a zig-zag manner, and look as if they might be easily detached.

From this place there are five rooms or openings, the one in which we had just come, two on our right, one

straight forward and one on the left, besides various crevices, that may be the entrances to other rooms. Standing under this mighty dome, we hallooed with all our might, our voices ran along each room, and we listened attentively to the echoes as they died away in the distance. How this place was formed, it is difficult to conceive, it seems as if solid rock had been removed, many ages since. Passing on, we went through rooms of various heights and widths, and called by various names. (Wherever the cave suddenly enlarges or diminishes it receives a new name, though it is in a straight line, and on a level with what precedes and follows it). In some of them are stalactites of all shapes and sizes. Some of them are beautiful from their novelty. In some places dark veins run across the roof, or extend various lengths in it. Some of them wind about and are known as the "serpent", &c. If all were exhibited in the open air, there is nothing that would be supposed to be beautiful; there are no glittering icicles, or anything to reflect, vividly, the light from our Dutch lamps. All is a continuation of gray limestone, with a few changes in its color. Traces of Indians having been in the cave are seen in various places. Frequently we came to heaps of small stones and lumps of earth, which seemed to have been thrown from a sieve after the fire had passed through; some might contain 15 or 20 bushels. There was, also, coal and pieces of canebrake burnt on one end, showing that fires had been kindled 5, 6 or nearly 7 miles from the mouth of the cave; things were found in this condition when it was first explored by white men. There was, likewise, a number of small oak butts, three or four inches through, and seven or eight feet long, in different places, in a sound state, but evidently cut down by some very dull instrument. A number of similar ones were placed upon clefts in the rocks 10 or 15 feet from the ground and which could not be reached without a ladder; why the Indians placed them there, no one knows, except there is an entrance to some cave where each stick stands.

Salts of various kinds are found in some of the rooms,

they seem to exude from the fissures in the rocks, and it is thought not unlikely that the Indians knew their properties and collected them. Epsom and Glauber salts are most plenty. On our way were two places where the water trickled down from the top, and here we quenched our thirst.

At length we came to the end of the lofty passage, and being directed to stoop, we crept on our hands and knees two or three rods, following our guide. When the passage widened, we came alongside our guide, who was holding out his lamp for us to see what was before us. He was within a few feet of the brink of a tremendous precipice said to be 300 feet deep, by the light of both lamps we could discern the opposite side of the pit, though a dusky haze surrounded it. The pit appeared circular, and as well as I could judge, 80 to 100 feet across; huge rocks, partly detached, hung directly over us and threatened, with the least jar, to fall and crush us. We threw small stones down the precipice and could hear the rumbling as they struck, and bounded from one stone to another, farther and farther, and fainter till the sound seemed to be lost in the distance. With the most attentive listening we could not hear them strike the water, which is supposed to run at the bottom.

After sitting some time looking into the dusky abyss, and hearing from our guide of some hair breadth escapes from this pit, we crept back to where we could stand erect, and began to retrace our steps. It used to be called ten miles to the pit, but it is found by measurement to be but seven miles; one quarter this distance, at least, was over loose shells of rock. Our lamps needed trimming often, but we had an ample supply of tallow. As my companion was tired, and our guide told us we had seen the most beautiful part of the caves, we hastened for the open air. Beyond the reach of daylight, was a rude pulpit, and a few seats. A year or two ago a Methodist preacher conceived of holding a preaching in the grave, or in the cave, thinking a discourse from such a place would produce a great effect. His audience was small,

and so was the effect of his preaching. It is probable the cave is 100 feet below the surface of the ground in many places. It is thought to pass under a branch of Green river. The cave may have been formed by the dirt having been washed away by an under-current, or by the decomposition of the rock. When we opened the door the air rushed into the cave with considerable force. We had been in the cave about ten hours. It was now the middle of the night and cooler out than in the cave. The air of the cave was very good, but not equal to what has been represented. It is dry and perhaps wholesome, but not so pleasant to breathe as the pure cool air of the open country.

Next morning we took leave and found our way back again to "Bell's Three Forks". The road for some distance from here is full of loose limestones, which break off the rock, which forms the road some distance and lies near the top of the ground.

Near Lexington we met, perhaps, 100 horsemen going out from there, to meet General Jackson, who was now on his way to Washington.

General Jackson entered the town in a carriage, which was closed, so no one could see him, but through the glass windows. A considerable number crowded along the street to see him alight, at one of the principal hotels of the place. The merchants, generally, took no pains to see him, being opposed to him. Mr. Clay's residence, Ashland, lies two or three miles northeast from the town.

Arrived at Cincinnati the 2d day of October [1832]. In a few days it was announced that the cholera first broke out on the 30th September, and by this time the cases had become so numerous that the fact could be concealed no longer. There was great consternation, and the following Sunday it was supposed that 10,000 people left the city. Some days the deaths amounted to near 50. The streets were nearly deserted, and scarcely a person could be seen in, usually, crowded streets, except knots of 3 or 4 standing at the corners. The cries and screams of those, who were taken with spasms, or were frightened, ren-

dered it unpleasant to pass through the streets, as plaintive moans frequently fell upon the ear. Many who left for the country, were taken on the road, and died before medical assistance could be obtained.

October 25th, left Cincinnati in the steamboat Guyandotte for Louisville, where I arrived on the 26th. By this time the cholera had abated in Cincinnati, but it still lingered there, and at various places along the river, and cases were reported at Louisville. At Shippingport lay a number of boats waiting for a rise, and for freight.

On Monday the 29th, left Shippingport in the "Dove" a snug little boat, bound to St. Louis. The old "76" bound to New Orleans left a few hours before us. It was near night when we left, but in the edge of the evening we passed the "76" aground.

We left the boat at the mouth of the Ohio, November 1, and the "Dove", rounding the point, went up the river and was soon out of sight. Here is but one house and we were some 15 or 20, including some ladies. Our accommodations were tolerable. The landlord had recently lost a brother by cholera and was rather fearful lest we might communicate it to the family again; however, he was very attentive and obliging. He owns 2,000 acres of land on the Illinois point, where we were, and 10,000 arpents on the opposite shore of the Mississippi, in Missouri. He owns slaves and brings some of them to the Illinois side to work during the week, and returns them at the end of the week. Much of the land on the point is overflowed in winter, but it will, eventually, become very valuable. A Mr. Bird is the owner. It is a dense forest on the point and on the opposite Kentucky shore. In the fall it is not uncommon for grey squirrels to come from one shore to the other, where nuts, &c. are more abundant. They swim and when they reach the opposite shore are so exhausted, that they are easily caught and sometimes in great numbers. Quails, or as they call them, partridges, often attempt to fly across the Ohio. The old birds generally succeed in reaching the opposite shore, but the young ones frequently fall short and drop

into the water; they are able to swim some and at length gain the shore, but so exhausted, that they will come right up to a person and allow themselves to be caught, which is done in great numbers, sometimes; when they are cooped and killed as wanted. The government has caused the large trees within one or two rods of the banks of the Mississippi to be cut down. The banks are constantly caving in and when a tree goes there is danger of its forming a snag or sawyer, but if a log is separated from its roots, it will float to the Gulf. Left the point on Friday, the 2nd of November, in the "Michigan", a fine large boat from St. Louis.

At Bayou Sarah I left the boat, preferring to go down by land, leisurely, as the yellow fever still lingered at New Orleans. The distance is about 120 miles. Left on the 13th for Jackson, a small town twelve miles in the interior. There are a few pretty good cotton plantations on the way, but generally the land is not very good, but rolling. There was a dissipated set at the tavern, and they kept up a noise all night.

So great was the dread of the cholera, that notices were put up on gate posts, in some places forbidding any persons to enter.

Left Baton Rouge on the 20th, and walked leisurely along stopping at some plantations; toward night I crossed the river and put up at the house of the ferryman.

The next night I arrived at Mrs. Irvin's plantation. It is said to be one of the largest on the coast and contains 1,500 acres under cultivation, besides woodland, back. It has a front of nearly two miles and extends from the river to near the same distance. Near the river is the Mansion house, a showy building of two stories, set up, as most of the houses are on the coast, on pillars, some two to four feet from the ground, allowing a free circulation of air under it, with a portico on the river side and a balcony on top and a fine garden around it. The Overseer's house was in near a mile and to it I wended my way with a person, with whom I became acquainted, and who was intimate with the Overseer. His house was a decent frame

one, with quite a number of negro huts near. I accepted an invitation to remain the next day and visit the different parts of the plantation and see the different operations.

In the morning horses were brought to the door and we mounted and rode wherever we liked. As is the case all along on the Mississippi, the land next the river is highest and slopes, imperceptibly to the eye, to the swamps; the fall is from one to three or four feet in the mile. The rain and transpiration water, as that is called, which rises up through the soil, can escape only by flowing into the swamps.

On this and some other plantations, the land is laid off into squares, and narrow ditches dug to drain into the principal ditch. The soil is deep and very rich. The front of the plantation is devoted to raising sugar cane and the necessary buildings for sugar making are in this part—the middle and back parts are used for corn and cotton. Cotton was from 6 to 8 feet high. A little before sunrise 30 to 40 negroes, men and women, set out together for the cane, singing merrily as they went. The cane is planted in February and March. Top pieces of cane are laid down in drills, breaking joints, and covered 2 or 3 inches they soon throw up numerous shoots, the cane is plowed and hoed like corn, the rows 5 or 6 feet apart. When grown it strongly resembles southern corn before it spindles, and is from 5 to 8 or more feet high. It is cut with large knives made for the purpose, a few strokes take off the leaves, the top is cut down to where the cane is ripened, and afterwards saved to plant, and the lower part of the stalk is cut at the ground and thrown in heaps, the pieces being from 18 inches to 5 feet long; it is immediately carted to the mill and then thrown upon an inclined carrier, which carries it in regular quantities to the second story, where it passes between iron rollers which press out all the juice instantly and without grinding and falls into carts standing beneath to receive it, while the juice runs away into large vats, whence it is let into the boilers as wanted. Most generally they have three boilers placed contiguous, in a row; into the first is let the juice where

it is boiled and evaporated considerably ; it is then dipped into the second and clarified and then dipped into the third and boiled to the necessary degree to crystallize, when it is again dipped out and runs into large wooden vats where as it cools, it granulates.

On this plantation they were making about ten hogs-heads of sugar per day. They begin to cut cane about the 15th or 20th of November, for fear of frost, which will destroy the cane, causing it to sour and preventing its granulating. The cotton-gin and other buildings for cotton are in the middle or back part of the plantation. The cotton is mostly picked by the children and the infirm. Cotton-seed is used for manure and ensures a thrifty growth of cotton.

November 29th, I started for New Orleans, distant about 25 miles. Two miles brought me to the "Red Church", a little, old, time-worn edifice, a noted landmark for boatmen. As I went down, the plantations were not so large nor well conducted as those above. Most of the plantations within fifty miles of New Orleans are owned by Frenchmen, those above by Americans. The houses for 150 miles are mostly built on posts or set on pillars, a number of feet from the ground. The levee most of the way from Baton Rouge is from four to five feet high and three to four feet wide with a good foot path on the top, so you can walk higher than the natural surface of the ground, which makes it very pleasant. In some few places the levee is wide enough to allow a horse and carriage, but for short distances only. There is space left for a road between the levee and plantations, but there is very little travel upon it. Some few planters had quite a large stock of cattle, say 50 to 75, which were quietly feeding in very green grass fields, a thing not very common in this part of the state. I travelled all day and did not reach New Orleans till in the evening. It was so dark I could see but little of the suburbs. As you enter the course is northerly, which makes it difficult for most strangers to keep the point of compass, naturally supposing they are going southerly. I put up at a boarding house in Camp Street.

November 30th [1832], Friday. This morning I sallied forth to see the city. The first thing that strikes you is the different styles of building, the old French and Spanish houses being mostly one story high, with sharp roofs and covered mostly with earthen tiles of different shapes, and here and there an American, stately, brick building. The levee was all bustle. Merchandise of all descriptions was upon it.

December 28th, left New Orleans for Fort Adams in steamboat St. Louis.

On Monday, the last day of December, I left for Woodville, eighteen miles distant. It is a bustling business-like town, of 800 inhabitants, pretty well situated and some good buildings. Mechanics get about forty dollars a month. They are quite busy putting up cottages, &c. in the edge of the wood which skirts the eastern part of the town. In the summer a considerable number from New Orleans take up their abode here, as it is considered healthy. The young men of the place were remarkably tall and well looking. The public houses are good and have a good many boarders. Their custom is to rush to the table, eat quick as possible, and away from the table again. The landlord told me how it was and when he was going to ring the bell, placed me near the door of the dining room, with instructions that so soon as the bell struck to rush in and take a seat the first time, so instant was the rush. I should think some finished the meal in less than two minutes and before I was half done eating, I was left alone. The landlord apologized for their haste, saying it was their custom and he could not make them more orderly.

Left Woodville on the 3rd for Natchez, forty miles north, which I reached on the afternoon of the 5th. In the south-east part of Natchez is the slave market. This I visited as I entered the town. There are various buildings appropriated to this use with yards enclosed, &c. In one that I entered twenty or thirty were drawn up in a row and some purchasers were examining them, asking their ages, what work they could do, if they were well and strong, and feeling of their arms, &c. Here were blacks of all ages though mostly under thirty years, boys and

girls together. Some of the girls were very light yellow and had handsome features. Almost all seemed to be contented and showed off to the best advantage. From 600 to 1200 dollars was the price asked according to the age, &c. of the slave. Some of the yellow girls brought the highest price. Considerable business seemed to be doing in the city, as young people from the other parts of the state think as much of going to Natchez as one does in visiting the large eastern towns, and here they get their fashionable clothes, and small merchants buy their supplies.

On the 15th arrived at Monticello, containing 400 or 500 inhabitants. It stands on Pearl river, its site is level, the buildings are pretty good and scattering, but little business seemed to be doing. The whole country from near Natchez to this place is a pine forest. The population is small and cultivation is confined mostly to the margins of small streams and hollows. Houses on the road are often ten miles apart and seldom, if ever, are two houses in sight at the same time. Hunting forms a profitable amusement to the settlers, as excellent deer and other game are plenty. Turkeys are caught with ease and in large numbers. The approved mode is to make a square pen with rails, covering it at the top. At one side is a trench of a foot in depth and one or two wide and leading a foot or so inside the pen and terminating abruptly; into this, and inside the pen, corn is thrown. When a flock comes to the pen it finds the corn and one turkey follows on and pushes the head on till it comes to the end of the ditch, when it looks up and jumps up into the pen, followed by another; in this way twenty or thirty are sometimes caught, as when they find themselves caged they direct their efforts for escape to the top and seldom, if ever jump down and creep out the way, by which they came in.

Left on the 16th for Holmesville. The road was so thinly settled that it was dark before I put up, having travelled eight or ten miles from the last house. It was a poor one-story house and the fare was poorer. The weather had become quite chilly and in the evening the wind from the north was quite fresh and cold. The man of the house

proposed a fire hunt, to which I assented. He put some rich pine knots in a long handled frying pan (having a light frame work at the end of the handle, to rest his rifle on when firing), and setting them on fire and taking his loaded rifle, we left for some grassy hollows at a distance from the house. We wandered about for an hour or more, but saw nothing, probably owing to the high wind and cold. The hunter carries the pan on his shoulder, the fire back of him; if a deer is near it will start up and look for a time at the fire; the hunter can see the deer's eyes and by the light behind him he is able to take good aim. It is seldom the case that they do not see at least one deer in an evening. Sometimes an inexperienced hunter shoots a horse instead of a deer.

My bed room was the attic of the house, which I occupied alone. The bed was good, but not so the room; interstices between the logs were not stopped and I had the full benefit of a strong current of cold air passing through my room all night; however, as I had plenty of bed clothes, I so piled them up that I was very comfortable except when I had the temerity to raise up my head.

Almost all the southern half of Mississippi is an immense pine forest; they are not large, but straight and very full of turpentine; there are a few spots of good land, but generally it is sandy and poor; there is very little travel through this part of the state; the roads are simply cut out, there is so little travel upon them that they are in good order being smooth and pretty hard. There are few guide boards on the roads and the traveller must frequently rely upon his knowledge of the course he wishes to travel to find his way. There is one advantage, in the roads being nearly straight. Besides, the principal roads are "blazed", that is, at distances, the most conspicuous trees by the road have a piece hewn off the side next the road, while private ways generally have not this distinguishing mark. There is considerable grass grown through all this region, as the growth of pine is not thick and some low places are destitute of timber, altogether. They generally burn over the ground every winter and some were

burning at this time, but in some places the young grass had sprung up since the burning and looked thrifty. A good many cattle are raised here and considerable many sheep.

[From here Mr. Towne returned to New Orleans, and then by steamboat went up the Mississippi and the Ohio, and returned home by way of West Virginia, Philadelphia and New York, reaching Topsfield April 29, 1833.]

Arrived at Boston on April 29th, and reached home same evening, the weather was extremely warm and the roads dry. As might be expected, I felt great joy in again beholding the hills of Topsfield, though by starlight. Below me lay the quiet village just as I left it nineteen months before. I hastened across the deep valley and was at home, in the place I had thought incomparably superior to all other places, and which I had had constantly before me during all my travels, and which I thought I never should leave, for any length of time, again.

THE PRINTING PRESS IN TOPSFIELD.

BY GEORGE FRANCIS DOW.

The earliest printed mention of Topsfield appears in "Good News from New England", a tract printed in London in 1648, wherein it is stated that "William Knight of New Meadows has gone back to England". William Knight was the first to preach the Word in this place which was not officially given its present name Topsfield, until the year 1649.

The earliest product of the provincial press which may be bibliographically connected with the town is a funeral sermon delivered in 1715, by Rev. Joseph Capen, pastor of the Topsfield Church. The title page reads as follows:—

A Funeral SERMON | Occasioned by the | DEATH | of | Mr. *Joseph Green*, | Late Pastor of the Church in | **Salem Village** | By **Joseph Capen**, | Pastor of the Church in *Topsfield*. | With a Prefatory Epistle by | Dr. INCREASE MATHER. | [Two quotations from the Scriptures]. Boston: | Printed by *B. Green*, for *Samuel Gerrish*, at his | Shop near the Brick Meeting House, 1717.

8 vo, pp. t. p., iv, 46.

Copies of this sermon are exceedingly rare. The writer is the fortunate possessor of a perfect example and also an imperfect one. The Massachusetts Historical Society and Dr. Samuel A. Green also own copies. Forty years ago the Rev. Anson McLoud of Topsfield possessed a copy which has disappeared without leaving a trace and the only other copy that has come to our attention was sold at C. F. Libbie & Co.'s auction room in Boston about twenty-five years ago and cannot now be traced.

The prefatory epistle by Rev. Increase Mather crowns this work with somewhat of a halo and its present high degree of rarity makes it one of the scarcest of the books connected with that remarkable family of New England ministers.

The next printed work identified with Topsfield is a sermon preached here in 1743 by the successor of the deceased Rev. Joseph Green whose funeral sermon has been described. The text was—"For God is love," and the sermon was divided into forty-three numbered parts. The title runs as follows:

The Banner of divine Love displayed. | A | SERMON | Preach'd at the Lecture | in ~~Topsfield~~, | June 29, 1743, | By *Peter Clark*, A. M. | Pastor of the Church in *Salem-Village*. | [Two quotations from the Scriptures.] BOSTON: Printed and Sold by *S. Kneeland* and | *J. Green*, in Queen-Street. 1744. |

8 vo, pp. half-title, t. p., 47.

The next Topsfield minister to be honored by a printed sermon was the Rev. Asahel Huntington whose sermon on Jan. 5, 1800, "occasioned by the death of George Washington commander in chief of the American armies, and late President of the United States," was printed by Joshua Cushing in Salem. At least four other sermons by Mr. Huntington were put into type, two of them being printed in 1810 at Newburyport.

A printing press was established at Salem in 1768 and at Newburyport in 1773. When the citizens of Topsfield required printing done it naturally gravitated toward these two towns. Newburyport was at one end of the turnpike running through Topsfield, but Salem was nearer at hand and moreover was the shire-town and the better market. The Salem imprint, therefore, is usually found on printed items identified with Topsfield. Boston, Andover, Haverhill, Georgetown and New York also are represented.

The first printing press worthy of the name was set up in Topsfield in the summer of 1879 by William Perkins. It was a 7x11 Golding press that he purchased second-hand in Marblehead. With it came several fonts of type suitable for small jobbing work. Later Mr. Perkins added some new type.

William Perkins was born in Topsfield in 1822 and was the son of Hezekiah B. and Lydia (Ross) Perkins. By trade he was a shoemaker. For a number of years before he bought the press in Marblehead he had owned a small

hand press with which in a very small way he had printed business cards, tickets, slips, etc. With the larger press he supplied the local demand for programs, bill heads and general job printing. A catalog of the Sunday School Library of the Methodist church was printed in 1880 and an eight page "Account of the Introduction of Methodism in Topsfield" was published in 1894. The press was first installed in a small building on School Ave. on the right-hand side just over the bridge. About 1890 it was removed to the store on Main St. adjoining Edward's drug store where it remained until 1901 when it was removed across the street to the rear of the Gould shop which faces on Central St. Here Mr. Perkins repaired shoes and did odd jobs of printing. He died in 1910 and the printing press and type were sold to Otto E. Lake. The small hand press was sold in 1916 to George Hills, formerly of Linebrook.

Alphonso T. Merrill, a printer who learned his trade in the office of the "Haverhill Gazette", came to Topsfield about 1878, spending his summers in the house on Ipswich street, Springville, afterwards owned by Mrs. Abby Pevear and now by Thomas E. Proctor. At that time he was foreman for Smith & Porter, job printers, on Water St., Boston. In 1884 he bought out a small jobbing business the main stay of which was the publication of the "Massachusetts Medical Journal," a monthly magazine. The press was an 8x12 Golding which he moved to the barn near his house in Springville. Here for a few years during his spare hours he set up and printed the medical journal. In 1888 he moved into the village and established a printing office on the second floor of the stable owned by John H. Towne and now owned by Mrs. Cassie Roberts. Here he devoted his entire time to the business and turned out some very creditable work. Needing more room in a few years he removed the business to the third floor of the Herrick shop adjoining and afterwards to the Robert Lake building opposite Poor & Company's store where he opened on the first floor a small store for notions and men's furnishings. In 1901 he was elected town clerk which office he held until his death.

Mr. Merrill was a thorough workman and understood his trade. The mainstay of his printing business was the monthly issue of the "Medical Journal". The town reports and the Historical Collections of the Topsfield Historical Society helped out and in addition to the local job printing quite a little work came from out of town. For several years large amounts of printing were done for Gilbert B. Balch of this town, who at that time was at the height of his success in selling the "Stoddard Lectures." All this work was "kicked out" on the 8x12 Golding press which he purchased second-hand in 1884. The composing room was on the second floor of his last shop. After a short illness he died December 25, 1914, and the business was soon sold to William A. Perkins, a young man who had worked with him intermittently for the previous eight years and who also succeeded him as town clerk.

Mr. Perkins took hold of the business with the enthusiasm of youth. He purchased a 12x18 Golding press and installed an electric motor to run it. The business was growing and his prospects seemed excellent until October 5, 1917, when he was drafted into the military service of the United States. For a time the business was continued under the supervision of Mrs. Alphonso T. Merrill, the widow of the former owner, but the December, 1917 issue of the "Medical Journal" was the last and Mr. Perkins covered his presses and turned the key in the door until the return of peace in the world should permit him to reestablish his shattered business.

RECORDS OF THE PROPRIETORS OF THE
PLAINS MEADOWS, TOPSFIELD.

In July, 1890 the town clerk received from the estate of Moses Wildes, a volume containing the following records. The Plains Meadows were located along the Ipswich river between the River bridge, Salem Street, and the brook which flows between the Agricultural Fair grounds and the railroad and so on to the river. The name has now fallen into disuse.

To Nehemiah Cleaveland Esq^r: one of the Justices assigned to keep the peace in & for the County of Essex the Subscribers proprietors in the plains Meadows Common Fields So Called Situate in Topsfield in said County Do Request that you would issue your Warrant to one of the proprietors of said Plains Meadows to Notify & Warn the said proprietors of said plains meadows to meet & assemble at the Dwelling house of Jacob Kimball in Holder in said Topsfield on wednesday the Sixth Day of June next at two of the o clock in the afternoon for the following purposes

First to Choose a moderator of the meeting

2^d to Choose a Clark for the Current year

3^d to Choose haywards

4^d to agree on some method for Dividing the fence which incloses said Commonfield and assigning to each proprietor his or her Share of the fence

Topsfield May 22th 1792

Roger Balch } Pro^{rs}
Jacob Kimball }

Essex ss. Roger Balch above named, Greeting in the name of Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are Required to notify and warn all the proprietors of the a Bove named plains meadows Common fields to meet & assemble att the time & place and for the purposes mentioned in the foregoing Requist as the Law Directs given under my hand & Seal at Topsfield afore Said the twenty Second Day of may A D. seventeen hundred and ninety two

Nehemiah Cleaveland Just. pais

By Virtue of the above writen warrent to me Directed I Do hereby notify & warn all the proprietors in the above named plains meadows Commonfields to meet & assemble at the time & place and for the purposes mentioned in the above writen Request

Roger Balch

Topsfield 22d: May 1792

A Legal Meeting of the Proprietors of the plains meadows or Common Fields in Topsfield So Called on Wednesday the Sixth Day of June one Thousand Seven Hundred and Ninty two att the house of Jacob Kimball

1 st Mr Jacob Kimball was Chosen Moderator for said meeting.

2 ly Roger Balch was Chosen Clark for the Current year.

3 ly Mr John Cree and Asa Bradstreet was Chosen Haywards.

4 ly Mr^s Thomas Emerson Jacob Kimball and Roger Balch was Chsen a Committee to Devide Fence with those persons who Join on the plains meadow and also to assign to each proprietor his or her propotion of the same

Roger Balch Pro^{rs} C ark

Topsfield September 26th 1793

We the Subscribers Being Chosen a Committee to Devide the Fence Between those persons that Joins upon the plains meadow or Common fields So Caled and also to assign to each proprietor of said meadow his or her Share of the Same

the First Line is the Cosaway and Field Begining att the Bridg we Set of to Thomas Emerson Thirteen Rods from Said Bridg and mr Emerson is to maintain the Bars that gose in to the Said meadow: we Set of to Roger Balch and Asa Bradstreet Six Rods and eighteen Links of the Chain from the said thirteen Rods we Set of to thomas emerson four Rods & Eight Links of the Chain: then we Set of to Jacob Kimball Six Rods and twenty two Links of the Chain: then we Set of to John Cree two Rods and four Links of the Chain then we Set of to John Peab[o]dy two Rods and four Links of the Chain; then we Set of to thomas emerson one Rod and two Links of the Chain to the said Bars; from the said Bars Down By the Said field we Set of to Roger Balch & Asa Bradstreet ten Rods: then we Set of to thomas Emerson Seventeen Rods and ten Links of the Chain: then we Set of to John Treadwell Thirty Eight Rods & Twenty Links of the Chain for his farm then we Set of to Jacob Kimball two Rods and eleven Link of the Chain: then we Set of to John treadwell Seven Rods and twenty one Links of the Chain: then we Set of to John Cree three Rods and Eight Links of the Chain: then we Set of to Thomas Emerson fifteen Rods and Fifteen Links of the Chain; then we set of to Jacob Kimball Ten Rods and twenty two Links of the Chain: then we Set of to John peabody three Rods & twenty two Links of the Chain: then we Set of to John Treadwell thirty three Rods for his farm to the Brook

Second Line is the Brook and River: Begining where Said Treadwell Left of at the Brook we Set of to Jacob Kimball Six Rods Down the Brook: then we Set of to Roger Balch & Asa Bradstreet five Rods—then we Set of to David perkins Jun^r Nine Rods for his farm to the River: from Said Brook where it Emptis into the River we Set of to John Treadwell up the River Fourteen Rods and Fifteen Links of the Chain: then we Set of to John Peabody Eighteen Rods for his farm: then we Set of to John Treadwell three Rods and thirteen Links of the Chain: then we Set of to John Peabody three Rods and twelve Link of the Chain: then we Set of to John Cree four Rods: then we set of to Daniel Bixby Forty Rods

and thirteen Links of the Chain for his farm: then we Set of to Thomas Emerson Thirty two Rods: then we Set of to John Cree Four Rods and twelve Links of the Chain: then we Set of to Thomas Balch Five Rods for his farm: then we Set of to John Peabody ffour Rods: then we Set of to John Treadwell Six Rods: then we Set of to Jacob Kimball Twelve Rods: the we Set of to Roger Balch and Asa Bradstreet Seven Rods: then we Set of to Cornelius Balch Sixteen Rods and twelve Links of the Chain for his farm then we Set of to Thomis Emerson one Rod and eighteen Links of the chain: then we Set of to Cornelius Balch Seven Rods for his farm: then we Set of to Thomis Emerson twenty one Rods up to the Bridge where we Begun our first Line

Thomas Emerson	}	Committee
Jacob Kimball		
Roger Balch		

a Legal meeting of the proprietors of the plains meadow or Common Field, so Called

1^d ly Mr Thomas Emerson was Chosen moderator

2^d ly Roger Balch was Chosen Clark

3 ly mr John Peabody and Roger Balch was Chosen haywards

Topsfield April 7th 1794

Roger Balch
pro^{rs} Clark

the proprietors of the plains meadow Commonfields in Topsfield So Called are hereby Notified to Meet at the house of Mr Jacob Kimball, inholder in said Town on Monday the fourth Day of April Next at Six oclock in the Afternoon

1^d ly to Chuse a moderator for Said meeting

2^d ly to Chuse a Clark for the Ensuing Year

3^d ly to Chuse haywards for the Ensuing year

Topsfield March 15th 1796

Roger Balch pro^{rs} Clark

at a Legal meeting of the proprietors of the plain meadow Commonfield, So Called in Topsfield

1^d ly Mr Jacob Kimball was Chosen moderator

2^d ly Roger Balch was Chosen Clark for the yer ensuing

3^d ly mr Daniel perkins Jun^r and Mr John peabody Jun^r was Chosen haywards for the year ensuing

Topsfield April 4th 1796 Roger Balch pro^{rs}. Clark

September 2th 1896 this Day Mr John Balch & Mr Thomas Emerson made an agreement to Devide fence in the plains meadow as follows Said Balch agrees to make all the fence across the River from Said meadow to Said Balchs Pasture also to make two Rods of fence Begining at fence Sett of to Cornelius Balch Deces^t from thence up the River to fence Sett of to Said Emerson

David Balch

John Balch

Roger Balch

Thomas Emerson

The proprietors of the plains meadow Commonfields in Topsfield So Called, are hereby notified to meet at the house of mr Jacob Kimball inholder in said Town on Monday the third Day of April next at five oclock in the afternoon

1^d ly to Chuse a moderator for said meeting

2^d ly to Chuse a Clerk for the ensuing year

3^d ly to Chuse haywards for the ensuing year

3^d ly to Chuse a Committee to See that the fence is made according to Law Round Said meadow or act as they Shall think proper Respecting Said affair

Topsfield March 24th 1797 Roger Balch pro^s Clark

att a Legal meeting of the proprietors of the plains meadow Commonfields So Called in Topsfield

1^d ly Mr Jacob Kimball was Chosen moderator for said meeting

2^d ly John Peabody Junr was Chosen Clark for the year ensuing

3^d ly Roger Balch and Daniel Perkins was Chosen haywards for the yer insuing

4^d ly John peabody Jun^r Daniel perkins and Roger Balch was Chosen a Committee to See that the fence is made according to Law Round Said meadow

Topsfield April 3th 1797 Roger Balch pro^{rs} Clark

[Meetings were afterwards held each spring from 1798 to 1801 at which the business transacted was similar to that of the previous meeting.]

At a legal meeting of the proprietors of the plains-meadow, Commonfield, [at the dwelling house of Nehemiah Cleaveland, innholder, on Monday the fourth day of July, 1808 at five oclock, afternoon]. It was voted as follows, Viz:

1st Daniel Bixby was chosen moderator.

2d Moses Wildes Jr. was chosen clerk for the current year.

3d Amos Gould, Ebenezer Peabody and Joseph Cree were chosen Haywards for the current year.

4th Thomas Emerson, John Peabody & Moses Wildes Jur. were chosen a committee to divide the fence.

5th Voted that the annual meeting of the proprietors shall be holden for the future on the first Monday in April, and that the Clerk shall put up Notifications for said annual meeting in all the Towns where any of the proprietors live.

6th Voted to adjourn the meeting till the first Monday in October next.

Topsfield July 4th. 1808. Moses Wildes jr proprietors' Clerk.

[No further records appear in the volume.]

ESSEX COUNTY QUARTERLY COURT RECORDS
RELATING TO TOPSFIELD.

ABSTRACTED BY GEORGE FRANCIS DOW.

(Continued from Volume XXII, page 128).

John Redington, Thomas Perkins and Edmond Towne of Topsfield were made free.—*Mar. 29, 1664.**

Zacheus Curtice, for whipping the daughter of George Hadley was sentenced to be whipped and pay costs.

Complaint of Mary Hadley† against Zacheus Curtious:†
“My unkell sent me to a feelld of corne to see whether theare was any cattil in it about halfe a mile of it was: and when I was goone by Thomas baucrs hous where Zacheus curtious was and he folowed me and ouertooock me and he had a rod and he whipt me with that and then he let me gooe and puled another rod and he over tock me agayne and whipt me with the 2 rod with my feet under his armes and my head on the ground and then he let me gooe and gathered two rods and ouertwoke me and mad me pull of my cots and whipt me with both them rods the thurd time and then he let me gooe agayne and got another rod and whyp me with that rod also which was the fifth rod and then he bid me gooe and dress my selfe but afore he whipt me the second time he would a had me to a gone in to a swomp and I would not: and when I tould him that I would tell my aunt he sed he would whip me fower times as much.” Sworn, March 12, 1663, before Daniel Denison.

Topsfeild presentment, Zaccheus Curteous, son of Zach-eus Courteous, for whipping and misusing several children. Wit: Mr. Perkins, John Wiles, Francis Pabody and John Gold—*Mar. 29, 1664.*

*The date at the end of each paragraph or case is the date of the session of the Court.

†She was about eight years old and he about fifteen.

John Millington was sentenced to be whipped or pay a fine of 10li. for his great misdemeanor, and also to be bound to good behavior. John Gould agreed to pay the fine. Millington was bound in 20li., John Gould and Daniell Clarke, sureties.

— — — deposed that in January, 1663, her brother Edmon Bridges asked her to go to Salem with him but she stayed in their house while he and his wife went. John Milinton offered uncleanness to her and she told him that she would not yield to him for all Topsfelld. Then he went away to the fire and prayed that deponent would forgive him, etc.

Sarah Bridges, aged about thirty years, deposed that her sister sent John Milinton to the house for some meal, etc.—*Mar. 29, 1664.*

William Evans and John Gould were sureties to the amount of £200, on the bond of Symon Tuttle of Ipswich, *Mar. 29, 1664.*

Mr. Thomas Gilbert and Joseph Bigsbye of Topsfield were made free.

John French took the oath of fidelity.—*May 5, 1664.*

Edmond Bridges, the elder, and Edmond Bridges, the younger, were allowed costs in an action brought by Nathaniel Abbott, the latter not appearing to prosecute.—*June 28, 1664.*

Francis Peabody served on the grand jury and Isaack Comings on the jury of trials at Ipswich, *Sept. 27, 1664.*

Tho. Baker v. John How. Slander. Verdict for plaintiff.

Writ: Thomas Baker v. John How; slander; for defaming his name in saying that two of Goodwife Bates' children were his; dated 12:7:1664; signed by John Redington; and served by Edmond Bridges, deputy constable of Topsfield.

Thomas Baker's bill of cost, 1li. 15s.

Edmond Bridges, aged about twenty-seven years, deposed that he heard John How say that some of Goodwife Batts' children were Thomas Baker's and one was William Hunter's, and when said How came from Rowly he heard Goodwife Kimball say that Goodwife Batts told

her so, etc. Daniell Clerke deposed the same. Sworn in court.

Thomas Backar and Edmond Bridges testified that John How affirmed that John Kimball's wife never told him that Goodwife Batts accused Thomas Baker, etc. Sworn in court.

Mary Kimbal deposed that she never heard Goodwife Bates say anything about Thomas Baker, etc.

John Kimball and Thomas Kimball testified that when Thomas Backear and John How came down to their house, the latter said that if John Renetan said he told the stories, he would abide by it, as for Goodman Clark and Edward Briges there was no heed to be taken of what they said for every one knew what they were. Sworn in court.—*Sept. 27, 1664.*

John Dane v. John Gould. For cure of a wound. Withdrawn.—*Sept. 27, 1664.*

John Millington was discharged of his bond for good behavior.

Upon complaint made against Daniell Black and his wife, court ordered that they should sit one hour in the stocks, and for the future that said Black was not to threaten his wife or miscall her and to live peaceably with her, and she was to be orderly and not to gad abroad. She was further ordered not to be in company with John How or Judah Trumble nor come to the house of John How unless her husband sent her on business, and if either of them offended against this order, they were to be whipped.

Summons, dated July 22, 1664, to Daniel Blake to answer a complaint for having forced his wife from him, not suffering her to live with him, signed by Samuel Symonds and Daniel Denison. Said Black was bound for appearance, and Edmund Bridges, jr., was bound to prosecute the complaint.

Complaint of Dannell Black against his wife Faith Black: "For her keeping company with Juadath Trumbell and John Hoow and for keeping of John Hoows hous and espashelley one night above the rest the saide faith Black was seen walking with Juadath trumbell About the daye Light sehuttin in withing a Lettell Space se arch of the other

and being not seen from that tyme till mednigh or aboute that tyme and then Goodey Black came to Goodman wakeles house shee came to the dore and knocked att the dore soe sauft that no one could not heare her att Last shee went the back side of the house and takin up a clow Boord and knocken Against the house wakned the woman and the woman ris and opned the dore and lett her in and Asked where shee had been at that tym of night shee Answered she had ben att Goodman Clarkes eaten of fish Goodey wakley Asking why shee did nott goe home to her hursband and to her one house shee Answered and sd that shee did not Care for goein home And Lickwise att other severell tymes being seene att John Howes hous and sum tymes in bed with John Hoow was seen to bee and allsoe her husband being A Pore man and one that hath nothing to Live by but his Labor had but one Cow and for the want of the milchen of her Lost the Profet of her by his wifes carlesnes where upon hee was Provoked severell tymes and often to theretten her and tell her that hee would complaine of her to the Court her Father And the rest of her frinds with John How togeather hearing of this made A Complant to M^r Symons," etc.

Goodwife Black complained that her husband had called her baud, swearing and cursing at her, threatening to kill her and knock her brains out. He told her to go and shift for herself and pulled off her stockings, turning her out of door and not suffering her to come in, so that she was forced to go in the snow to Goodman Carall's, which was half a mile from her home.

John How testified that he heard Danil Black "wish god to dam his soul if he ded not Bett his wif Brains outt."

Edmon Bridges and John How testified that he forced his wife out so that she was obliged to go half a mile up to the knees in snow to get relief.

Obidia Bridgis deposed that Danill Black and his wife were at deponent's father's house, and she was very ill. There were several people in the house and Thomas Lovekin was desired by "my seester black" how his finger was that he had cut off. Danill Black seeing this, told his

wife that he vowed that he would make her know sorrow for that. Some hours after, he asked his wife to go up with him to Mosis Pangren's and she refused, but he went and brought down a bottle of sack, drank some of it with his wife and so fell out with her. Deponent came between them and prevented his striking her, and Black replied "you Rog I will ron you thorow," having his knife drawn in his hand. Deponent and Edmon Bridges also deposed that they heard Black at Wenham tell his wife to go bring a sickle out of a field of corn when it was very wett weather and when she had not been abroad a great while on account of a great sickness, and when she refused to go, he abused her so that they had to send for the constable to quiet him.

Thomas Hobes and his wife testified that a woman ought to be a meet help for a man, but Black's wife provoked him by her words and carriages, and they had heard Black say that if his wife would stay at home, dress his victuals and wash his clothes and do by him as by a husband, he would allow her time to see her friends as much as she desired. But when she had been out two or three days and nights together, he could not help speaking to her. If she had done as she might have done, they would have lived very well and he would have worked and taken a great deal of pains, but when he reproved her, she said she would do it again. If deponents' wife had not washed his clothes and fed his swine, they would have suffered, yet all the thanks Black's wife gave her was to tell her that she did not ask her to do it.

John Gould deposed.

Elizabeth Perkins, sr., and Agnes Ewens were ready to depose as follows, if called: That they did not desire to testify, but what had brought them forth was the busy prattling of some other, probably the one whom they had taken along with them to advise a young woman, whose simple and foolish carriages and words, having heard of, they desired to advise better. This had come to the ears of Dan. Black, who had them summoned as witnesses. They desired to be excused from testifying because what was told them was a private confession which they had

never to that day divulged, and the woman had never offended since that time but had lived gravely and soberly. The testimony was briefly that Mary, wife of John Howe, confessed to them and to Mary, wife of Dan. Clarke, that Goody Black lay with her one night in her husband's absence, and her husband coming home, etc.

Thomas Dorman testified that one day when Daniell Blacke worked with him at the village, which was a very wet and cold day, he went home expecting to find his wife. She had brought a waist-coat to deponent's house and then went to Mr. Baker's, from which place Goodman Meddalf's man carried her to John How's where she stayed all night, etc.

Zacheus Curtis and Luk Wakelin deposed that they heard John How say that Daniell Blacke was a jealous fellow, etc.

Luke Wakelin and Katherine Wakelin testified that John How had often given Judah Trumbole counsel not to keep in the company of Goodwife Black for fear trouble would come to him, etc.

Daniel Black, complained of by John How for abuse, was bound, July 23, 1664, by Samuel Symonds to appear at the next Ipswich court.

John Danfed deposed that after working at the plains one day, he called at John How's and saw Goodwife Blake there by the loom-side shelling pease and heard her say that she would be at John How's in spite of her husband's teeth.

Zacikes Curtes, jr., testified that he heard Edmond Briges say that John How's wife came, etc.

Luke Wakelin deposed that he went with Daniel Blake to John How's house to find his wife, and Goodwife How whispered to deponent to ask Blake to go to deponent's house to get a ladder and then she could get Goodwife Blake away, etc.

William Smith deposed that Goodman Bridges said that his sister Faith might live as well with Daniel Blake as any poor woman in Topsfield, but her proud spirit was enough to provoke anyone to do things that he would not do at another time, etc.—*Sept. 27, 1664.*

Edward Neland, upon his presentment for striking another man's boy, was fined, and for taking up a beast from another man's common was admonished.—*Sept. 27, 1664.*

John How, presented for a lie, was fined.

John How, presented for slandering and reproaching the town of Topsfield, was fined.

Samuel Perlay testified that as he and John How were going to Topsfeald, the latter took a paper out of his pocket and read to him verses concerning Goodwife Pebody, Goodwife Clarke and Goodwife Andrus. These women were named in the first verse, to this effect, that these three women "do together flock and so they spend their husband's stock and master woodcock shall be preacher to those women, he ned not study above an ower or two in on week," etc.

Edmond Bridges testified that he heard John How say that Topsfeld town had persecuted five or six of God's people out of the town, and his father being a godly man, they were against his coming to Topsfeld. Likewise he said that he, being one of the seed of the faithful, was a victim of their spite and they would turn him out likewise. He also said that he was like Lot in Sodom, and that he would tell the court so when he went there. Sworn in court.

Samuel Perley deposed that John How told him that he made the verses that were lost in Goodman Briggesses shop, etc.—*Sept. 27, 1664.*

Capt. George Corwin v. Francis Baites. Debt. John Hathorne jr., took oath in court to the truth of the account. Verdict for plaintiff.

Writ, dated 19:9:1664, signed by Hillyard Veren, for the court, and served by Isack Estey, constable of Topsfeild, by attachment of seven pounds in the hands of Danill Clarcke.—*Nov. 29, 1664.*

Execution, dated Aug. 29, 1664, against William Prichet to satisfy judgment granted Mr. Edmond Batter at Salem court of 30:4:1663, signed by Hillyard Veren, cleric, and served by Henery Skerry, marshal of Essex, by attachment of two acres and a half of meadow in Topsfeld,

which he delivered by turf and twig to Mr. Batter.—*Nov. 24, 1664.*

John Andrews served on the jury of trials at Ipswich, Mar. 28, 1665.

Thomas Baker was sworn constable for Topsfield.—*Mar. 28, 1665.*

Robert Andrews v. The constable of Rowley. Trespass upon replevin. Verdict for defendant.

Writ of replevin, dated Mar. 23, 1664-5, to deliver a black two year old heifer to Robard Andros, sr., distrained by the constable of Rowely, signed by John Redington, for the court, and served by Isack Estey, constable of Topsfeld.

Isack Estey's receipt, as constable of Topsfeld, to Robert Andrews, sr., for the country rate for 1664.

Agreement, dated Jan. 18, 1653, between Joseph Jewett of Rowley and Thomas Dorman, Willeam Emanes, Thomas Houlat and Frances Paybody of Topsfeld, for a parcel of land in Rowley in a village lately agreed on by the town of Rowley, which said Jewett sold to them for 70li. to be paid at Jewett's house in Rowley in corn or cattle, etc. Wit: Jerimiah Jewett and John Tod.—*Mar. 28, 1665.*

Zacheous Gould v. The constable of Rowley. Trespass upon replevin. Verdict for defendant.—*Mar. 28, 1665.*

Daniell Black was sentenced to be whipped or pay a fine.—*Mar. 28, 1665.*

The constable of Topsfield returned that Mr. Perkins was not at home and could not be summoned to answer his presentment.—*Apr. 27, 1665.*

Zacheus Goold v. Richard Swan, constable of Rowly. Review of an action tried at the last Ipswich court. Verdict for defendant. Court did not accept the verdict.

Writ, dated June 16, 1665, signed by Robert Lord, for the court, and signed by Robert Lord, marshal of Ipswich.

John Pickat and Ezekel Northen deposed that Zacheus Gould and others bought land of Joseph Juat, late of Rowly, called Rowly Village land. Said Gould had one lot bounded by Fishing brook on the east and north to An-

dever line, and by the Governor's farm and Ipswich river on the south to a tree on the turn of the river and Price's meadow, and from there to the eight mile tree near Andover bounds, etc. Sworn, Apr. 3, 1662, before Daniel Denison.

Copies of writ to replevin Zacheus Gould, distrained by the constable of Rowley, the return of the constable, Isaack Estey, the records of Ipswich court in this action, receipt for Gould's country rates for 1664, and of the depositions of John Pickard and Ezekiel Northend taken 29:1:1664, all made by Robert Lord, cleric.

Jeremiah Elsworth and Richard Swan, deposed that there was a country rate ordered and Gould's land was included, etc. Copy made by Robert Lord, cleric.

Thomas Howlett of Ipswich deposed that, being desired by Rowley men, he helped lay out the three hundred acres that Mr. Paine bought of Capt. Patrick, the latter having received it from the General Court. Mr. Paine exchanged it with Rowley men, and this is the land upon which Zacheus Gould and John Gould now live. Copy made by Robert Lord, cleric.

Tho. Houlitt, sr., aged about sixty years, deposed that the five hundred acres in Mr. Endicoot's farm, with these three hundred acres of Gould's, he laid out, etc. Sworn in court.

Mr. John Putman, aged about thirty-six years, and John Gould, aged about twenty-eight years, deposed that they saw the General Court order signed by Mr. Rason for Ensign Howlit and Corporall Gage, of Ipswich, and also the deed from Joseph Juit's executors to Zacheas Gould. Sworn in court.

Copy of the General Court order, Sept. 3, 1643, signed by Edward Rawson, secry., granting to Ipswich inhabitants, who for more than two years had supported preaching there, the right to form a settlement, Mr. John Endecott, Mr. Bradstreet, Mr. Symonds, Mr. Whittingham, Mr. William Payne and Mr. Robert Payne to perform the same, etc.

John Wiles, aged about forty-six years, deposed that about twenty-one years ago, etc., Gould's farm adjoined another farm also granted Mr. Wm. Paine by the town of Ipswich, etc. Sworn in court.

Willm. Howard, aged about fifty-six years, deposed that sixteen years ago Zacheas Gould possessed the house that he now lives in and the land which was often called Mr. Pattrick's farm. Also that Gould had paid toward the ministry at Topsfeild village for many years, etc. Sworn in court.—*June 27, 1665.*

William (his mark) Nicolls of Topsfeild, on 1:10:1664, acknowledged a debt of nine pounds to Henry Bartholmew of Salem. Wit: Samuel Archard.—*June 27, 1665.*

Isaack Comings served on the grand jury and Daniell Hovey served on the jury of trials at Ipswich, Sept. 26, 1665.

Edmond Bridges v. Edward Richards. Debt. Of 48s. in bar iron. Verdict for plaintiff.

Writ, dated Sept. 7, 1665, served by John Fuller, for the court, and served by Thomas Browne, constable of Lyn, by attachment of house and land of defendant.

Edward (his mark) Richards of Lyn, on Nov. 29, 1663, agreed with Edmond Bridgis of Topsfeild, for the exchange of a mare and horse, etc. Wit: Daniell Salmon and Margey (her mark) Salmon. Owned in court by defendant.

Ralph King deposed that being at Mr. Gidney's in Salem, he and Edward Briges agreed that 43s. to be paid to Mr. John Payne at Boston would satisfy for the whole bill of bar iron due from Edward Richerdson. Sworn in court.

Ed. Brigis bill of cost, 1li. 3s.—*Sept. 26, 1665.*

Edward Richards declared in court before Mr. Wm. Perkins' face, that the latter being asked whither he was going, said to hell for aught he knew. Mr. Perkins appeared and denied the testimony, and was ordered to appear at the next Salem court.—*Sept. 26, 1665.*

Thomas Dorman was released from training he paying what he pleased to the company.—*Sept. 26, 1665.*

Mr. William Perkins, ordered by the Ipswich court to appear to answer for misdemeanors, and not appearing, court ordered a warrant to be issued for his appearance at the next Ipswich court.

Summons, dated Nov. 23, 1665, to Abraham Hill, and

Sarah, his wife, and Isaack Shepard, to appear as witnesses, signed by Robert Lord, for the court, and returned by John Wayt.

John Paull, aged about thirty-seven years, deposed that the last January, being at Mr. Samueil Bennett's house, he saw Mr. Perkins riding upon his horse from the direction of William Edmonds' house and John Goold came after from mending his stirrup, as Goodwife Edmonds told deponent. At that time deponent saw Mr. Perkins reel first on one side and then on the other, so that it was feared he would fall off, etc. Sworn at Malden, 13:8:1665, before Will. Brakenbury and John Wayte, commissioners.

William Edmonds and his wife deposed. Sworn in court.

Isack (his mark) Shepherd, aged about twenty-two years, deposed that he saw Mr. Perckines, who sometimes lived at Waymouth, at the Malden ordinary, and he called for sack. Goody Hill told him that he had had too much already, and Master Perkins replied, "if you thinke I am drunke let me se if i Can not goe." He went tottering about the kitchen and said the house was so full of pots and kettles that he could hardly go, and he asked deponent to call the constable to set him in the stocks if he were drunk, "and I tould him that I was a going and wente aboute my besenes." Sworn, Oct. 27, 1665, before Thomas Danforth.

Abraham Hill testified at Maldon, Mar. 10, 1664-5, that "this man Caled M^r Perkins who some time liued at Wamoth, since I here hath or doth liue at Tarpsal," showed by his carriage the signs of a drunken man.

An, wife of William Edmonds, deposed. Sworn in court.

Bill of cost, for the two Scotchmen's testimony, Cornet Sprage for bringing testimony, etc., 18s. 6d.—*Nov. 28, 1665.*

Ned a cockett, an Indian, came before the Worshipful Mr. Samuell Symonds and Major Genrll. Denison, on Dec. 7, 1665, and acknowledged judgment to John Gold. Also Humphry, an Indian, Ned a cockett's brother, acknowledged judgment to John Gold.—*Mar. 27, 1666.*

Isaack Comings was sworn constable of Topsfield.—*Mar. 27, 1666.*

Edmond Bridges, in behalf of the town of Topsfield v. Samuell Cuttler. Verdict for plaintiff.—*Mar. 27, 1666.*

Jo. Gould v. Rich. Hutcheson. Debt. Verdict for plaintiff.

John Hutchinson, aged about twenty-three years, deposed that his father sent him to John Gold's to bring the mares home, but the latter refused to deliver them, pretending great damage done in his hay for which he required five pounds, and saying that he had taken them up for strays. Sworn in court.

Zaccheus Gould and Thomas Baker deposed that Hutchinson agreed to pay what two men adjudged the damage to be. Sworn in court.—*Mar. 27, 1666.*

Mr. William Perkins was fined for excessive drinking.—*Mar. 27, 1666.*

Mr. William Perkins appeared in open court Mar. 28, and publicly exhibited a complaint or accusation against Mr. Thomas Gilbert, minister of Topsfield, that in public prayers and sermons at several times he uttered speeches of a high nature, reproachful and scandalous to the King's Majesty and his government, mentioning several witnesses. Court issued warrants for said Gilbert's and the witnesses' appearance, and on Mar. 29, they appeared and were sworn. The court, apprehending the case to be extraordinary, both in its nature and tendency, without precedent in this country, and there being no laws here to provide against such offences, whereby any inferior court might be directed, they referred the matter to the next General Court of Election, all parties to appear there. Thomas Gilbert was bound in 1000li. Mr. Thomas Cobbitt and Mr. William Hubberd, sureties.

Wm. Perkins, sr.'s complaint: "Impri. Hee, y^e s^d mr. Gilbert in his publiq Ministry s^d Where is their God, & good Causes This hath oft bin Cast in y^e saints dishes since y^e king Came to y^e Crowne, & this last sad — hath bin made, 2^{ly} Bee not troubled for this last sad puidence w^{ch} hath befallen our Native Countries though it bee a most sad one: christ hath all power, & is by this a Ripen-

ing his Church for deliverance, let us therefore Resolute to stand or fall wth y^e Church of Christ, whose side is y^e strongest side 3^{ly} As y^e Apostles, when they sawe Christ dead & buried thought themsel. mistaken in taking him for y^e Savior, & messiah pmised, soe (said hee) God hath deceived us, Wee looked for glorious dayes, for dayes of Reformation, in Ingland, Scotland, & Ireland; but he held a Crooked providence hath Crost our expectation, God hath befoold us all. 4^{ly} What a braue day had wee in Ingland &c, but wee fell a quarrelling each wth other, & have lost all, 5^{ly} Judgement begins at God his house, to unite God his people who in time of Peace will fall out for 6^d, as in R. Elizath time, soe y^e Presbyterians & Independants in y^e Protectors dayes; but now since y^e King is Come in, they would bee glad to agree each wth other if they might. 6^{ly} I am loath (said hee) to make such a Construction of y^e prodigies w^{ch} haue hapned in old Ingl: y^e like to w^{ch} were never knowne; what God meanes I knowe not, but sure I am it lyeth very heavy upon God—his people in Ingl. Scotl. & in Ireland. 7^{ly} praying hee desired God to saue his people in old Ingl. wading under great oppression: y^e purity of Religion (s^d hee) is y^e Controversy this day, Lord iudge twixt us & others, who is in y^e Right, & hauing made mention of y^e King, & Bishops, & such like in Ingland: Auenge thyselfe (s^d hee) on them, y^t are no true freinds to Christ. 8^{ly} Praying for y^e people of God in old Ingl. whome hee mentioned as under sad pressure, & heavy oppressions, hauing lost their godly Ministers, (hee s^d) wilt thou not auenge thine Elect oh Lord, who cry unto thee dayly? Auenge them (s^d hee) auenge them, & y^t speedily. 9^{ly} In his 1st marke of a Thorough Conuiction, hee s^d If I doe soe or soe, the King & his Commissioners will take away my house & lott, but y^e true Conuert will say Let all goe rather then fle sin; I speake upon experience, for I was put upon it, in old Ingl. ether to let a good Livelyhood goe, or to act against my Conscience, but I shrink not at y^e pting wth all there, & I hope God will helpe mee to part wth Topsfeild also.

“10^{ly} Hee s^d further, y^e saints shall never bee quiet,

but bee hanged, drawne & quartered till y^e wicked bee in hell, but y^e needy shall not always be forgotten 11^{ly} praying hee begged of God ether to forgiue y^e King his piury, or to make him sensible of it, or to give him Repentance for it. 12^{ly} A poore dead saint is better yⁿ y^e Prince upon y^e Throne, y^t is wicked & piured, Mistake mee not, as if I spake concerning our King, God preserue our King, & teach him to take good Courses, & remoooue euell Counsellors from him. 13^{ly} It. Tis better to bee heere poore, & to liue in y^e wildernesse being Couenant keepers, then to sit on y^e Throne & bee Couenant brakrs. 14 It. Hee begd of God to Conuert y^e King, & ye Royall family from their Idolatry & supstition: such expressions hee oft used. 15 & y^e 12 of Febr. 64. hee used y^s expression applyed to y^e King also. 16 It. Follow not any tho neuer soe great, or graue, further then they followe Christ: The King (s^d hee) did soe, yea, but if we doe soe, wee may goe to hell; 17 It. The wicked shall bee burned into hell, &c. because God is able to throwe them thither, whether they bee great or smale, S^r John such an one, My Lord such an one, My Lady such an one & my Sovereigne such an one: 18 It. In prayer hee s^d, Wee are apt to Complaine of o^r King, & Parliament, & Gou^{rs}: but Wee haue more neede to Complaine of our sel. & sins; twas our sins, y^e sins of Professors, that Caused these Changes, were it not for our sins, God might (for ought wee knowe) make our King a saint, yea an eminent saint; hee made a Saul a Paul, & why may he not doe as much for our King? did not our sins prevent mercy from us: 19 If there were no punishment for wicked men after this life, then y^e Bishop of London, Yorke, & S^t Andrewes, &c. would bee y^e big prestmen, as ungodly men, who only minde this world, pfessedly wicked.

"20. True knowledge is a growing knowledge, when as other knowledge opposed by Princes dyeth away, &c. The L. (s^d hee) blesse our King, let us pray for our K. but if our King bee out of y^e way, or in a wrong way: Let us not part wth our Religion to serue the humor of Princes, or men: 21 It. A 3^d use to shoue y^e Reason why y^e godly dare not appeare in Ingl. to fast, & pray, &c.

he added, But there is a time a Coming or hastning, when y^e scale shall bee turned. Praying for y^e King, hee desired God to remooue from him Flatterers, & Clan-backs, & to place about him such as are faithfull; 23. It. upon psal. 120.10. hee s^d, when y^e Parliament shall Cut soe many eminent Ministers of their employments, This made y^e Act more bitter, than if y^e Bishops had done it, This (s^d hee) argues God angry wth us; thus hee acknowledged y^t y^e Parliament Cuts Ministers, yet in another Article hee saith y^t such as silence ministers, are as Paul tearmes Elymas, y^e Children of y^e Deuill, enemies of all Righteousness, 24. It. praying hee desired of God y^t it might in y^e 3 kingdomes Ingl. Scotl. & Ireland, goe well wth all, y^t suffer for a good Conscience, & for that blessed Couenant, & yⁿ hee added what shall it bee Counted a Crime, fitt to be punished by y^e Judges, to pleade for it. 25. I came hither to N. E. (s^d hee) to keepe my selfe from piury, from prelates, from Common-prayer-booke: & shall wee now yeald to these, to please princes, great men, to gett a Liuing, & belly Timber. 26. After y^e Newes Came of Gillom his being taken, hee prayed to God to shewe Ingl. y^e Cause of his Contending wth y^m by sword & pestilence & yⁿ hee added, y^t God was now auenging y^e quarrell of y^e Couenant, against them: & something hee spake of God his taking our ill-willers to taske, & oft hee Called them to account by his puidence against them, blasting them & their enterprises. 27. The last Sabbath in 8^{br} 65. in prayer hee s^d y^t God was now auenging upon them y^e breach of y^e Couenant, & though ministers durst not say soe, yet God him-selfe was a pclaiming to y^e world, how horrid a sin it is to breake Couenant. Besides seuerall other unfitting expressions Concerning many others, w^{ch} (loath to bee too troublesome) I omitt." Sworn in court.

Wm. Evans, aged about forty years, deposed. Sworn in court.

Thomas Howlet, sr., aged about sixty years, and James How, sr., aged sixty-one years, deposed. Sworn in court.

Richard Hutten deposed that he heard Mr. Gilbard preach at Wennam about four years ago, and expounding

the second Psalm, "I haue sett my king upon my holy Hill," he said that Christ Jesus should reign in spite of all the devil's kings, do what they can. Sworn in court.

Isaacke Cummings, sr, aged sixty-five years, deposed that "I haue seriously Considered of all the perticuler Charges giuen in vnto the Honored Courte against the said master Gilbird of Topsfeild, it is well knowne both to Topsfeild and Ipswich y^t I stand Related to Ipswich Church in which respect I haue bene many saboths at Ipswich," etc. He testified to a few things that he heard and he considered such remarks "not safe or y^t which did not concerne master Gilbird to meddell withall." Sworn in court.

Edmon Bridges, aged twenty-nine years, deposed that Mr. Gelbart said at Mr. Cobbit's that he heard that the King's bastard son was dead, and upon being reprov'd, said "may not a man spak the treuth." That he said God was avenging the breach of that blessed covenant by visiting the land with sword and pestilence, speaking of Charles I., and also used this expression "Good lord be intreted for the son thoue thou wouldst not for the father." Also, that there was a blessed covenant made between the King and Scotland, which the King had broken and that God would never let it go unpunished. Also in expounding the second Psalm he said "be wise you king, the kings of y^e erth ar assis and thay ar the scum of the erth let the devills kings dow what thay can against us if we stand for king Christ."

Daniel Hovey, aged forty-eight years, the 29:1:1666, deposed. Sworn in court.

Edmund Towne deposed that the substance of Mr. Perkins' indictment against Mr. Gilbert was true, etc. Sworn in court.—*Mar. 27, 1666.*

Elizabeth Medcalfe, executrix of the estate of Joseph Medcalfe, and Thomas Medcalfe v. Edward Nealand. Trespass. For felling trees, fencing and breaking up their land. Verdict for defendant.

John Dane deposed that being at Goodman Medcate's when he was very ill, a little while before his death, there was some discussion about Edward Nealling's carrying on

his wife's work after said Medcalf's death. Goodman Medcalf's son Thomas would not agree to give said Edward assurance of a parcel of land which the latter had bought of Goodman Medcalf unless Edward would promise to do his mother's work during her life at a groat a day, which he refused. Thomas told his father that the latter could not give assurance of it without his consent, because half belonged to said Thomas. The old man desired earnestly and mournfully that he would do it and be satisfied by some of his other land. The father owned that he had received his pay and deponent saw a deed of it on the table.

Copy of deed, dated June 5, 1664, Joseph Metcalfe, of Ipswich, seaman, Eliza. (her mark) Metcalfe and Thomas Medcalfe, in consideration for work to be performed, to Edward Nealand of Ipswich, Irishman, seven acres, bounded northwest by John Kimball, north by the highway, and the remainder on his other land, etc.

Nathaniell Perly, aged about twenty-two years, deposed.

John Perly, aged about twenty-eight years, deposed concerning the fence which Neland had put up, etc.

James Howe, jr., aged about thirty years, deposed that he helped to break up the land, and that Joseph Metcalfe told him that he had received from Neland in payment for the land half a mare. Also that Neland was to work for Metcalfe four pence per day cheaper than for another man, etc.—*June 26, 1666.*

Christopher Milton v. Edmund Bridges. Debt. Verdict for plaintiff, defendant to deliver the cow or pay a fine.

Writ, dated May 14, 1666, signed by Robert Lord, for the court, and served by Isaacke Commings, jr., deputy constable for Isaacke Commings, sr., constable of Topsfield.

Edmund Bridges' bill of charges, 1li. 11s. 6d.

Bond of Edmond Bridges and John Wiles, sr., of Topsfield for Bridges appearance at the constable's pleasure at his father's house in Ipswig, etc. Wit: Isaac Comings, jr., deputy constable. Neither party appeared upon the date set.

Bond of Edmond Bridges of Topsfeild, dated 16:1:1665, to Christopher Milton of Ipseigh, for 4li. 3s 10d. to be paid to Thomas Boushap, merchant, of Ipsich, and for security he offered his black cow which he tendered John Numarch. Wit: John Gould and John Kenarick—*June 26, 1666.*

The inhabitants of Topsfeild and the villagers adjoining thereunto, having by order of Major Danyell Denyson, met together in a military way and chose officers of a foot company of train soldiers, as follows, John Redington, sergeant-in chief to command the company, Joseph Bigsby, sr., sergeant, Abraham Redington, sr., clerk, and Edmund Towne, John Cumins and William Smith, corporals, the court confirmed them.

Petition to the court to confirm these officers, dated Topsfeild, 21:4:1666, signed by Daniel Hovey and William (his mark) Avril, in the name of the rest. Thomas Perkins and Jacob Town were appointed to present the petition for the company.—*June 26, 1666.*

Edmond Bridges acknowledged judgment to John Gould.—*June 26, 1666.*

Thomas Perkins served on the grand jury and John Gould on the jury of trials at Ipswich, Sept. 25, 1666.

John Baker and Obadiah Bridges, convicted of night walking, attempting to break the pound, running away and not standing, being required by the watchmen, two or three times coming to the pound, were fined and ordered to pay costs to Esay Wood and Samuell Graves.—*Sept. 25, 1666.*

Record of strays in the court book of Ipswich:—

John Gould entered, Dec. 9, 1665, a sorrell horse colt two years old with a flaxen mane and tail appraised at 3li. 15s. by Edward Towne and Zacheous Curtice, sr.

John Reddington entered, Dec. 14, 1665, a dark bay mare about three years old, her mane hanging on the near eye, appraised at 4li. by John Wild and William Smith.

John Gould entered, Jan. 22, 1665, a brown dark bay mare branded with an S and B., also a bay colt with a star in the forehead, appraised at 6li. 10s., by Zacheous Gould and Robert Smith.—*Sept. 25, 1666.*

Jon. Goold v. Edw. Coldborne. For taking away a stray colt. Referred to the bench. Judgment for plaintiff.

Writ, dated Nov. 13, 1666, signed by Robert Lord, for the court, and served by Robert Lord, marshal of Ipswich, by attachment of two heifers.

John Gould on Dec. 9, 1665, took up a stray horse colt of about two years old, etc. Copy of record of strays, made Nov. 13, 1666, by Robert Lord, recorder.

John Gould's bill of costs, 5li. 13s. 8d.

Edward Cobourne, aged about forty years, and his son, John Cobourne, deposed. Sworn in court.

Thomas Baker deposed that as he was riding to Ipswich he met John Coborn riding to Topsfield and told him of the stray horse at John Gould's. This horse had been cried at Topsfield and deponent, being constable there, gave notice to the constable of Ipswich to do the same. Sworn in court.

Richard Hutton, aged about forty years, deposed. Sworn in court.

John Curtis and John Umphrey deposed that a colt was in John Gould's English pasture, etc. Sworn, Nov. 23, 1666, before Daniel Denison.

Zacheus Gould and James Hanscombe deposed. Sworn, Nov. 23, 1666, before Daniel Denison.

John Robison deposed that he was at work in John Gould's yard with Gould, etc. That the day before Thanksgiving, he saw this colt with a withe about his neck and that Gould told his servants to withe him if they ever found him without one, etc. Sworn in court.

Tho. Lowthroppe deposed that while seeking for a mare of his which he found in the field of Goodman Smith at Topsfield, he saw the colt in controversy which had neither withe nor wreath about his neck.

Edward Bridges deposed concerning the marks. Sworn in court.

Zacheus Curtis deposed. Sworn in court.

Zacheus Curtis and John Robison deposed that Goodman Colborn said that Capt. Layterup sent him, etc. Sworn in court.

Joshua Ray, aged about twenty-nine years, deposed. Sworn in court.—*Nov. 27, 1666.*

John Goold acknowledged judgment to Mr. Edmund Batter, part to be paid in wheat and part in young neat cattle.—*Nov. 27, 1666.*

Births in Topsfield, 1666:—

Pheabe, daughter of Joseph and Pheabe Towne, May 4.
 John, son of Isack and Mary Cumings, June 7.
 Damaris, daughter of Thomas and Judeth Dorman, Aug. 3.
 John, son of John and Hana Pebody, Aug. 28.
 Benjamin, son of Edmond and Mary Towne, May 26.
 Edmond, son of Jacob and Cathorne Towne, July 21.
 Tho., son of Daniell and Hana Boorman, July 15.
 Jobe, son of William and Hana Averell, Jan. 1.
 Thomas, son of John and Sarah Gould, Feb. 14.

Marriage in Topsfield, 1666:—

John Perkins and Deborah Browning, Nov. 28.
 per John Redington, cleric.

“Topsfield, here is the names of those that are in a Rate to defray the Townes detes which have not payed which arise before the 10th of February: 1664:” Daniel Clarke, 8s.; Thomas Dorman, sr., 1li. 1s.; Thomas Dorman, jr., 6s. 7d.; William Averill, 6s. 10d.; Isack Cumines, sr., 4s. 7d.; Isack Cumines, jr., 13s. 4d.; Anthony Carill, 4s.; Thomas Averill, 11s. 5d.; Thomas Hobes, 7s. 8d.; Thomas Brownig, 8s. 8d.; William Smith, 4s. 7d.; John French, 4s. 2d.; Edmond Bridges, 5s. 1d.; Daniell Blacke, 3s. 4d.; Jakob Townes, 8s. 2d. Isacke Estey, 6s. 6d.; William Townes, 1s. 4d.; Joseph Townes, 9s. 6d.; Edmond Townes, 9s. 7d.; James Watters, 2s. 11d.; William Nichols, 10s. 11d.; John Nicholes, 4s. 3d.; Lucke Weaklin, 4s. 1d.; Mr. William Perkins, 14s. 7d.; Mr. Gote, Richard Kimball and Thomas Fiske, 10s. 6d.; Barzila Barker, 2s. 2d.; Robard Androus, 4s. 4d.; Even Mories, 1s. 9d.; John Daucece, 1s. 9d.; William Haeden, 1s. 9d.; William Prichate, 1s. 9d.; Farmer Pourter, 7s.; Thomas Putnam, 1s. 3d.; Nathainell Putnam, 1s. 9d.; John Putnam, 8d.; Jusua Raie, 11d.; Goodman Herick, 11d.; Roger Haskell, 8d.; Ould Blacke, 4d.; William Dogge, sr., 1s.; John Dogge, 1s.; Richard Kimball, 9d.; John Rament, 8d.; William Rament, 4d.; Samuell Corning, 1s. 2d.; Goodman Grover, sr., 2d.; Edmond Bushop, 1s. 2d.; John Grover, 2d.; Joseph Roots,

6d.; Jacob Barnie, sr., 10d.; Jacob Barnie, jr., 10d.; John Poulard, 4d.; Mr. Endicoate, Governor, 10s.; Samuel Cuttler, 13s. Signed by John Gould, in the name of the selectmen.

Thomas Perkins served on the grand jury and Thomas Baker on the jury of trials at Ipswich, Mar. 26, 1667.

Zorobabell Endicott v. Daniell Hovey and Edmond Bridges, in behalf of the town of Topsfield. Withdrawn. Edmond Bridges allowed costs.—*Mar. 26, 1667.*

Mr. Wm. Perkins v. Mr. Thomas Gilbert. Defamation. Two cases. Withdrawn.—*Mar. 26, 1667.*

Edward Neland v. Thomas Lovell. Debt. Verdict for plaintiff.

Writ, dated Mar. 18, 1666-7, signed by Robert Lord, for the court and served by Robert Lord, marshal of Ipswich.

Sarah Waree deposed that at the last Fast day at night she heard Thomas Loveell say that his master Baker should have the frame before he would keep it any longer. Sworn in court.

John Woodham deposed that he heard that Tho. Lovell had bought or was about to buy Wore's house of Neland, and upon deponent asking said Lovell, the latter said he had not bought it. Deponent told him that nobody should meddle with any house upon his ground and forewarned said Thomas, before Deacon Knowlton, not to come upon his ground. Sworn in court.

Edward Neland's bill of cost, 1li. 7s. 10d.

John Baker, sr., deposed that Lovill offered to allow him ten shillings, etc. Sworn in court.

Martha Anthru, aged about twenty-three years, deposed that in the spring of 1666, Lovell at her father's house owned a debt to Nealand, which he promised to pay next Michelmas to deponent's father Mr. Baker, in corn or cattle, according to bond. Sworn in court.

Sarah Warr, aged nineteen years, deposed. Sworn in court.—*Mar. 26, 1667.*

Obadiah Bridges appearing for the crime laid to him by Lidia Browne, court ordered that he appear at the next Ipswich court. Edmond Bridges, sr., and Edmond Bridges, jr., bound.

Examination of Samuel French: That after Obadiah Bridges came out of the room from Lydia Browne, he went in, etc. Taken, Feb. 22, 1666, before Daniel Denison.

Bond of Samuel French, Ens. Thomas French and Thomas French, jr., acknowledged, Feb. 22, 1666, before Daniel Denison.

Thomas French, aged about thirty-two years, deposed that Bridges told him of his relations with Liddy, etc.

Edmond Bridges and John Bridges testified that Samuel French said after he had been before the Major and taken oath against Obadiah Bridges that he was so scared, never having been before a magistrate before, that he said what he did for fear.

Edmund Bridges, sr., and wife Mary deposed that hearing a rumor that William Warner and Ephraim French were able to witness in this case, they asked the former to tell the truth and he said that the room in which they were was not a private one, etc.

Edmund Bridges, sr., and John Bridges testified that Lidiiah Browne said that she never saw any harm in Obadiah except this one time, etc.

Examination of Lydia Browne, taken Feb. 29, 1666, before Daniel Denison: that about twenty-three weeks since Bridges and French came to the house of Daniel Warner, her father-in-law, in the evening pretending to visit a brother-in-law who was in the house. Her father and mother were that day gone to Boston, and she went into another room followed by Bridges who shut the door and pulled in the latch, etc.

Examination of Obadiah Bridges, taken Feb. 20, 1666, before Daniel Denison: that he was innocent of the charge and could prove it, etc. Bond of Obadiah Bridges, Edmund Bridges, sr., and Edmund Bridges, jr.

Samuel French deposed that he went out of the room and lighted a pipe of tobacco, and came back and knocked at the door where Bridges and Lydia were, etc.—*Mar. 26, 1667.*

Christopher Milton acknowledged judgment to Daniell Hovey.—*Apr. 30, 1667.*

John Goold, chosen ensign of the foot company of Topsfield, was confirmed.—*June 25, 1667.*

William Nicholls was dismissed from common training, paying 5s. yearly to the use of the company of Topsfield.—*June 25, 1667.*

John Redington served on the grand jury and John French on the jury of trials at Ipswich, Sept. 24, 1667.

Danill Hovey v. Robert Andrews. Trespass. Withdrawn.—*Sept. 24, 1667.*

Danill Hovey v. John How. Trespass for pulling up his fence. Withdrawn.—*Sept. 24, 1667.*

Mr. Wm. Perkins v. Mr. Thomas Gilbert. Defamation. Verdict for defendant. Court did not accept the verdict.

Ed. Bridges deposed that upon Sabbath day last, he heard Mr. Gilbert say that men must repent of what they had done or else go to hell and he prayed that the necks of all who opposed the ministers of the Gospel should be broken. Owned in court by Mr. Gilbert.—*Sept. 24, 1667.*

Mr. Wm. Perkins v. Mr. Tho. Gilbert. Verdict for defendant. Court did not accept the verdict.—*Sept. 24, 1667.*

Daniel Hovey, for speaking falsely to the prejudice of Major Genll. Denison, was fined and ordered to pay costs to Zacheous Gould.

John How and John Gould deposed that Daniel Hovey said that the Major did not declare his sentence in public, but what he did was done after he was gone. Further that John Gould whispered to the Major when he was going away, etc. Also if any one should go down to make a complaint of him to the Major, the latter had promised that he would not hear them nor grant a warrant until he came, etc. Sworn in court.—*Sept. 24, 1667.*

Ordered that when the constables of Topsfield clear with the treasurer of all that is behind, the treasurer shall pay them five pounds.—*Sept. 24, 1667.*

Obadiah Bridges was referred to this court, and desiring to be tried by a jury, he was found guilty of very uncivil carriages and suspicions of the act of uncleanness. He was ordered to pay a fine and cost of the jury.—*Sept. 24, 1667.*

John Clarke v. Alexander Tompson and his wife. Slander. Verdict for plaintiff.

Complaint, dated Aug. 17, 1667, of Alexander Tomson and wife Deliverans against John Clerke of Wenham: She said that on July 18, Clerke came into her house with her husband to light their pipes of tobacco, and after her husband had gone to reaping, Clerke smoked awhile and going to the end of the house called to her husband to come in and smoke. He answered that he would when they had carried another end. Clerke came back and tried to kiss her, but having her child in her arms, the child cried out, etc. This complaint was heard by Mr. Samuel Symonds.

Hanna, wife of Philip Welsh, deposed that being at the house of John Clerke of Wenham at last Salem court time, at the request of said Clerke and his wife, to look after their children. Clerke came home early, leaving his wife at Salem, and soon after he came in, "haveing asked her if she would let him kisse her & she refusing by violence he did kisse her against her will." Sworn, Aug. 20, 1667, before Samuel Symonds.

On Aug. 20, 1667, John Clerke, upon further like testimony of Hanna Welsh, was bound to good behavior, said Tomson was bound to prosecute and Hanna Welsh and Henry Haggett were to appear as witnesses.—*Sept. 24, 1667.*

Mr. Wm. Perkins was discharged of his presentment.—*Nov. 14, 1667.*

Ensign John Gould served on the jury of trials at Ipswich, Mar. 31, 1668.

Edward Neland, aged about twenty-five years, deposed in the tresspass suit of Elizabeth Fuller, executrix to John Fuller, deceased v. Samuella Younglove.—*Mar. 31, 1668.*

Mr. Wm. Pateson v. John How. Appeal from a judgment of Major Hathorne. Verdict for defendant, the confirmation of the former judgment. Court did not accept this verdict.—*Mar. 31, 1668.*

Mr. Wm. Pateson v. Daniell Black. Debt. Verdict for plaintiff.—*Mar. 31, 1668.*

Mr. Wm. Pateson v. Edmond Bridges. Debt. Verdict for plaintiff.—*Mar. 31, 1668.*

John How v. Mr. William Pateson. Defamation. Verdict for plaintiff.—*Mar. 31, 1668.*

Mr. Wm. Pateson v. Anthony Carrell. Defamation. Verdict for defendJant.

Writ: Mr. William Patteeson v. Anthony Carrill; defamation; for reporting that he heard Hackaliah Bridges say at Mr. Baker's that he heard it spoken at Edward Dear's house that plaintiff stole from his master in Barbadoes fifteen hundred pounds, and further reported that Ed. Deare's wife replied "I doubt Hacialiah is mistaken for the marchent himself did owne he stole five hundred pounds from his master;" dated Jan. 27, 1667; signed by Robert Lord, for the court; and served by Robert Lord, marshal, by attachment of farm and house of defendant, and, not giving security, he committed him to prison.

William Norton deposed that he heard Anthony Caryll own Mr. Patersen's charge against him, etc. John Edwards deposed the same. Sworn in court.

Mr. Patteeson's bill of costs, 2li. 6s. 8d.

Edmond Bridges, Hachaliah Bridges and Daniel Blacke deposed that Mr. Pattarson agreed to acquit Hachaliah Bridges if the other two deponents would testify that Anthony Carall reported the story. Sworn in court.

Robert Lord, jr., deposed that being in Mr. Patterson's chamber with Mr. Norton and Anthony Carroll, etc. Sworn in court.

Andrew Petters and Robert Lord, jr., deposed that having occasion to be in Topsfeild, they met Hackaleah Bridges riding near the meeting house, and asked him why he allowed the poor man to lie in prison for words which he spoke himself and he replied that he went to Patteeson's chamber, etc. Sworn in court.

Jonathan Ransford, aged thirty odd years, deposed that he, being in Barbados some years before at a great sessions, saw William Patterson stand at the bar, and upon inquiry what it was for, was told that it was for persuading Mr. Jno. Bawden's man to let him have some of his master's sugar to carry along with him in partnership. And after the jury had brought in their verdict, deponent saw said Petterson standing in a place called the "bale dock," and inquiring how he got clear, they told him by a fine of some thousand of sugar. Sworn, Mar. 19, 1667-8, before Jno. Leverett, assistant.

(To be continued.)

JAMES HOWE OF IPSWICH AND SOME OF HIS DESCENDANTS.

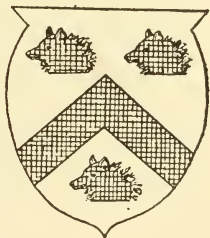
BY M. V. B. PERLEY.

In the possession of the Ipswich Historical Society is an old account book formerly the property of James Howe, the emigrant ancestor, in which, not long before 1690, he inscribed the following record:—

“ Robert Howe lived in Hatfield-Broad-Oak, county Essex, England, where Sir Francis Barrington lived in Woodrow-Green; James, son of said Robert, in a place called Hockerill [or Bockerill], in Bishop-Stortford,—in the happy and gracious reign of King James I.”

The name How or Hoo is said to be of English derivation, and to signify a high place, a hill, critically a hill in a valley. De la How, “from the hill”, was originally the name of the family. How also signifies knowe, whence Knolls, Knowles, Knox and Kneeland.

The totem of the How coat of arms is the wolf's head; and of the several arms, bearing that emblem, we select this one for this branch, because it once belonged to a How family of county Essex, England:—“ Argent, a chevron between three wolves' heads coupé sable. Crest:—Out of a ducal coronet or a unicorn's head gules, attired and crined of the first.”



James Howe first appears at Roxbury, where, with Abraham Howe, probably a brother, he was made a free-man, 17 May, 1637. During the next few years he was sometime in Salem, finally removing to Ipswich, where he was serving on the jury in December, 1641. Rev. John Norton, the minister of Ipswich, had asked the

town to reserve "at the Farms", now Linebrook*, two farms for some friends in England, whom he thought would come over. The friends declined the venture, and on motion of Mr. Norton, one of the farms was granted to James Howe, 11 June, 1650. The other William Norton sold to Abraham Foster, 7 July, 1659. They contained 100 acres each.

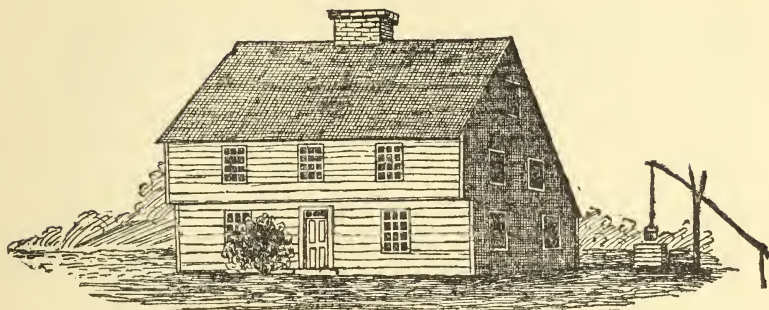
During that decade there were, in "Ipswich-Farms", south of the Ipswich-Rowley boundary line and north of the Cochichawick-Agawam Indian trail, the present Andover-Ipswich road through Linebrook, three farms, roughly outlined thus: Henry Batchelder's, containing about 80 acres, extending from Bullbrook pasture, including "Huettlebery Hill", "joining upon the land betwext Rowley and Ipswich", to the present Newburyport Turnpike; then Abraham Foster's of 100 acres, extending to the present New cemetery;† then James Howe's of 100 acres, reaching to the common lands north of Baker's, now Hood's pond.

James Howe bought, 3 July, 1651, about 21 acres in three pieces adjoining Mr. Winthrop's and Mr. Symonds' farms. He also bought salt marsh, six acres, next Ipswich Hundreds, 7 Feb., 1647.

James Howe's first house was built on the grant of 1650. Its location or exact site we do not find recorded. John Howe, sr., disclaimed "any right in the first house my father built on his farm in Ipswich or any housing or land there". The new house was built before 1688, probably soon after the contract for the barn in 1683. The front door was driven full of nails, to prevent the Indians cutting through. James Howe, jr., lived in a

*The western part of Ipswich began to be called "Ipswich Farms," or "The Farms," about 1650, when the records begin to speak of "pprieties" there. The western parts of Ipswich and of Rowley were incorporated a territorial parish, 5 June, 1746, which some time later was named *Linebrook Parish*. In 1814, the territorial function of the parish ceased by legislative act. The Ipswich part of the parish is "Linebrook"; the Rowley part, "Millwood".

†The territory of Linebrook Parish has had three cemeteries: the westernmost, on land given by John Perley, 1725, called the Old cemetery; the one the Parish bought of Rev. Geo. Lesslie, 1753, called the Linebrook cemetery; and the New one, so called, established by the town in 1888.



THE ABRAHAM HOWE HOUSE, BUILT IN 1711.

small house not to be confused with the first dwelling. Abraham Howe, jr., built his house in 1711. Three of these four houses James Howe, sr., was familiar with, and two were known to the early boyhood of the writer.

The Howe estate of late years has been known as the homestead of Mrs. Eliza Howe Perley, whose father Aaron descends from James Howe, senior. The Abraham Howe house, built in 1711, formerly stood where the present barn stands, and was taken down about 1850. The "witch house", in which lived James and Elizabeth Howe, formerly stood in the rear of the present house, the cellar being marked by a slight depression in the ground 196 feet over the knoll northeast from the well and 95 feet northwest from the oak tree. The depression has long been known in the family as "Mary's hole", having been named for Mary, the daughter of James Howe, who devotedly served him during his blindness and old age. The "old house", occupied by James Howe, senior, probably stood near the fence south of the barn (*see* Essex Deeds, 27 : 173), and the "new house", where Abraham Howe, senior, lived in 1688, formerly stood across the present highway some thirty feet in the rear of the house of late years known as the Emerson Howe place (*see* Ipswich Deeds, 5 : 440). It had a long sloping roof and was taken down in 1840. A barn 42 feet long and 22 feet wide with 12 foot posts was erected in 1683.

James Howe was a weaver by trade. He was one of the surveyors that laid out, in the spring of 1653, the Andover road that passed his house and over Winthrop's Plain, that adjoined the Howe homestead. He was a commoner in 1641; a Dennison subscriber, 1648; had a share in Plum Island, 1664, and was tithingman in 1677. He was on jury panels, 1637, 1638; trial juror, 1641, 1646, 1647, 1659, 1661, 1662; constable of Ipswich, 1646, and grand juror, 1663. His public service diminished after his removal to "The Farms"—six miles from the town's centre.

His will was drawn 12 Jan., 1699-1700. In it he confirms to his son James, housing and lands and meadows, which, given by deed, he had before that time and ever since possessed and enjoyed, and other movable estate, and also gives him £10. He had already given to John, his son, of Topsfield, real and personal estate; also to daughters Mary, wife of Nehemiah Abbot, Rebecca, wife of Stephen Barnard of Andover, and to daughter Sarah Bridges and her daughter Sarah Preston; and "whereas Son Abraham has taken good care of his father and mother in their old age", he gave to him houses, barns, orchards, tillage lands, pasture lands, and meadow grounds in Ipswich, that is to say, said parents' home lot, bounded by Timothy Perley's land, that which was Winthrop's farm and Mr. Norton's farm formerly: also all the plain and the old lot meadow and upland that belonged to said parent and not given away by said parent, bounded by the upland by Nehemiah Abbot, senior's, land easterly: by James Howe, junior's, land westerly by stakes and stones fixed: all which is partly within the fence and partly without the fence, bounded by Ipswich commons on the westerly side: and by Rowley line on the northerly side.

James Howe, senior, died Sunday, 17 May, 1702,* aged 104 years, having lived in three centuries. His wife, Elizabeth Dane, only daughter of John Dane, of

*Judge Sewall records in his Diary:—

"May 19, 1702, Mr. James How, a good man, of Ipswich, 104 years old, is buried. Died, I think, on Lord's-Day night, just about the time the News of the King's Death was brought from Madera." King William died 8 March, 1702.

Roxbury, died 21 Jan., 1693-4. Probably Mr. Howe's early Ipswich home was with, or neighbor to, Rev. Francis Dane, who removed to Andover in 1648, nearly two years before Mr. Howe went to "the Farms".

Children of James and Elizabeth Howe :—

2. JAMES, b. abt. 1635 or 36.
3. JOHN, b. abt. 1637.
4. MARY, b. abt. 1638; m. 14 Dec., 1659, Nehemiah Abbot, son of George, of Rowley. He was b. in England; commoner of Ipswich, 1664; freeman, 1669; deacon of Topsfield church; settled a farmer in Ipswich-Farms, on a part of his wife's father's estate, now the Lauer farm, on Newbury road, just north of the Old cemetery. He d. March, 1706-7. They had three children: two Maries, b. 1660 and 1665, and Nehemiah.
5. SARAH, b. abt. 1644 (aged about 20 y. in 1664); m. 5 Dec., 1666, John Bridges, a blacksmith of Andover, and after 1690 of Mendon; had daughter Sarah, who m. a Preston.
6. ABRAHAM, b. abt. 1649; d. 21 Jan., 1717-18.
7. REBECCA, b. abt. 1651; d. 15 April, 1725; m. 1 May, 1671, Stephen Barnard, b. 1649, a weaver in Andover, who d. 12 July, 1722, in his 74th year. Children: — , b. 1672; John, b. 1674; Hannah, b. 1677-8 or 1678-9; Nathaniel, b. 1682; James, b. 1686; Robert, b. 1689.

2. JAMES HOWE, JR., was born in 1635 or 1636, since, according to court depositions, he was "about 30" in 1666, and "about 34" on 28 Sept., 1669. He was blind, so he had to be led, at the age of fifty. He died 15 Feb., 1701. He married, 13 April, 1658, Elizabeth Jackson, daughter of William and Joanna of Rowley. She was condemned as a witch, during the witchcraft frenzy of 1692, and departed this life 19 July of that year.* His will, dated 19 Nov., 1701, confirms to his daughter Elizabeth Jackson's children what he had given her, devises to his daughter Deborah six acres in the West meadow, bequeaths to his grandson James £25, when twenty-one years old, and to his granddaughters Martha and Sarah Howe, 20s. each when eighteen years old or married. He gave to his other two daughters, Mary and Abigail, "for

*See a full account of her trial in Perley's "Short History of Witchcraft."

their pains and care that they have taken of me for several years and their labor for my maintenance", my house, barn, orchard, lands, salt marsh in Rowley, and movables indoor and out, and appointed them executresses. He signed his will James How, but it was proved, 11 Mar., 1701-2, as the will of James Howe, jr. The witnesses were Abraham, sr., Abraham, jr., and John Howe.

The inventory of his estate, made 3 Mar., 1701 or 1702, by John and Abraham Howe, amounted to £158. 1s., as per their items:—

Wearing apparel,	£7	0	0
Books, Bibles and sermon book,		1	
Feather bed and bedding,		8	
Chests, table, chairs and such,		3	
6 acres in the West Meadows,		18	
Salt marsh in Rowley,		16	
Meadow . . . yt . . . 18 acres		40	
Cow and mare,		3	
The homestead, upland and meadow, orchard and buildings	60	0	0

Children of James, jr., and Elizabeth Howe:—

8. JAMES, d. in July, 1664.
9. ELIZABETH, b. 1 June, 1661; m. Caleb Jackson, son of Nicholas, of Rowley.*
10. MARY, b. 25 Feb., 1664; d. "a blind maid," in Rowley, 27 Jan., 1731.
11. DEBORAH; m. 11 May, 1685, Isaac Howe of Roxbury, son of Abraham, jr., and had (b. in Roxbury), Abraham, b. 24 Oct., 1689, and Abigail, b. 4 Feb., 1692.
12. JOHN, b. 17 April, 1671.
13. ABIGAIL, b. 3 Dec., 1673; d. 16 Jan., 1753, "an old maid."

3. CAPT. JOHN HOWE was born about 1637. His youth seems full of roguish activity, an activity that frequently brought him before the Quarterly Court at Ipswich. He unlawfully rode Poor's mare, 30 Oct., 1656, and Peter Cooper's in 1658. A poetic effusion of his slandered the town and Thomas Baker in 1664. He trespassed on Daniel Hovey in 1667. But in 1681 he became town constable of Topsfield.

His homestead was in the northern part of the town, on a road leading from Ipswich Farms to Topsfield, cross-

*The Howes and Jacksons were neighbors.

ing the town line near the second bound-stone east of Baker's, now Hood's, pond; traversing the west side of Winthrop's meadow; crossing Howlett's brook, and passing the home-site of Joseph Smith, the Mormon's grandfather. His sister-in-law, the alleged witch, passed that way with the constable that fateful Sunday morning of her arrest. There is "a brook hard by my dwelling house". A little north of that brook is a rise of ground on the east side of the old road, where only a few years ago was an old cellar.

Captain Howe married Mary Cooper of Rowley, born 2: 4 m. (June), 1642, to Peter, a neighbor of his youth. The wife of John Howe was presented in court, May, 1663, "for wearing a silk scarf and silver bodkin, when she was a widow." She was discharged. There was more of the silk scarf in Sept., 1664. His wife Mary died 2 Mar., 1676-7, in Topsfield. He married, 2nd, before 20 Dec., 1686, Sarah Towne, born 26 April, 1657, to Edmund and Mary (Browning) Towne. He and his wife joined the Topsfield church 19 July, 1685. He made a marriage agreement, 25 Dec., 1706, with Mrs. Sarah Dennis, widow of Thomas, of Ipswich, with whom he had been published 7 Dec., 1706, at Ipswich, providing for her, if she became his widow—the marriage soon to take place.

His will, made 19 May, 1725, when he was "far advanced in years", signed "John How, Senior", proved 23 Dec., 1728, makes no mention of a marriage agreement, but provides well for a prospective widow, as wills generally do. He died 16 Dec., 1728, in his 92nd year.* Of his thirteen children, only six are mentioned in his will:—Sarah, John, Anne, Joseph, Lydia and Benjamin.

Children of John and Mary and Sarah Howe:—

14. SARAH, b. 12 May, 1665. In May, 1683, she engaged, as servant for one year, to June, 1684, with Jacob Adams of Newbury. She had been from home a year, before she let herself to Adams, whose home was ten miles from her father's. She left Adams after a while, and Francis Thurley entertained

*The following are guesses at his age from court records: 23 in 1663; 30, 33 in 1674; 35, 33, 36 in 1675; 90, 91 in 1728,—which makes his birth in 1640.

her. Adams sued Thurley for entertaining a fugitive from service. The Justice ordered her return. Then John Howe of Topsfield, an attorney, her father, appeared in her behalf, and entered an appeal. He said the girl was under age, but over sixteen years, and could not make a valid agreement without his consent. She m. 2 Mar., 1684, John Thurlow, b. 25 Mar., 1660, to Francis and Anne (Morse) Thurlow of Newbury. Had: (1) Mary, b. 10 Feb., 1686; (2) Sarah, b. 3 Oct., 1689; (3) Anne, b. 29 Feb., 1691; (4) Lydia, b. 20 Aug., 1695; (5) Bethia, b. 3 Mar., 1697-8; (6) Hannah, b. 9 Sept., 1701; (7) Martha, b. 14 Nov., 1707.

15. MARK, b. 17 Dec., 1666.
16. JOHN, b. 3 Mar., 1669-70.
17. ANNE, b. 1 or 6 Mar., 1672.
18. SAMUEL, b. 27 Mar., 1676.
19. JOSEPH, b. 28 April, 1679.
20. MARY, b. 31 Jan., 1681.
21. ELIZABETH, b. 22 Mar., 1682.
22. LYDIA, b. 20 Dec., 1686; d. 14 May, 1731-2. Her estate was valued £71. 5s. 2d. Her brother Benjamin gave bond as adm. 29 May, 1732. Her son Isaac Cummings, "as she called him," was b. 8 Dec., 1712. Isaac, of Falmouth, m. 14 Jan., 1730-1, Mary Curtis, and d. in Falmouth, of small-pox, 12 Nov., 1731. Isaac, of Falmouth, carpenter, for £32, sold or mortgaged half of his land in Falmouth to Zaccheus Perkins of Topsfield, 1 Jan., 1730.
23. BENJAMIN, b. 5 or 8 Jan., 1687-8.
24. HANNAH, b. 1 Mar., 1690-1; d. 1 Nov., 1695.
25. ABIGAIL, b. 6 Aug., 1692.
26. JOSEPH, b. 30 Sept., 1697; d. 27 Feb., 1742; m. wid. Phebe Goodhall, 2 April, 1729, who d. 5 June, 1737. His will, drawn 14 Jan., 1741-2, proved at Ipswich, 29 Mar., 1742, calls him yeoman and very sick, nominates his cousin, Isaac Commings, alias Howe, as executor, and gives him the estate. The inventory, made by Thomas Howlett, Thomas Perkins and David Balch, 13 April, 1742, contains the following items:—

Note of hand.....	£12
Wearing apparel.....	5
20 or 30 poles of land near Clark's bridge, in Topsfield.....	2 10
Rights in several lots on south side the river.....	5
Old book.....	5
Legacy due from Benj. Howe.....	15
An old musket and an old hogshhead.....	1

6. ABRAHAM HOWE was born about 1649, according to a court guess of 20 y. in 1669. Another court guess, however, of 34 in 1686, makes the year 1652. He died 21 Jan., 1717-18. He married, 26 Mar., 1678, Sarah Peabody, who died 29 Sept., 1732, in her 81st year. He occupied the ancestral estate in Ipswich-Farms. A seat was assigned him in the Topsfield meeting-house in 1700. In 1715, his minister's tax* for himself and son was eleven shillings. By articles of agreement signed by the widow Sarah and her seven children (Probate Docket, 14,030), she had left in the hands of her son Mark £200, her thirds of the estate.

Children of Abraham and Sarah Howe:—

27. LOVE, b. 15 Jan., 1678; d. 9 Aug., 1762; m. Samuel Porter of Salem, 15 Sept., 1722. She adm. upon her husband's estate 6 Nov., 1749. Personal estate, £231. 19s. 9d. A part of the assets was a "negro man". She leased of John Fowler, Ipswich, 20 Feb., 1752, a tenement—"the west end that was my father's, the two lower rooms, and the part of the cellar that was my mother's thirds—as a facility in educating her boys in Rev. Geo. Lesslie's home-school. Her son Samuel attended the Lesslie school.
28. INCREASE, b. 12 April, 1680.
29. SAMSON, b. 13 Nov., 1682.
30. ABRAHAM, b. 27 June, 1686.
31. ABIJAH, b. 17 Aug., 1689; m. (int.) 23 June, 1721, in Ipswich, Hannah Dow, b. 3 Oct., 1697, to Thomas and Susannah Dow.
32. ISRAEL, b. 24 Jan., 1692-3.
33. MARK, b. 25 Mar., 1695.

12. JOHN HOWE was born in Ipswich-Farms, 17 April, 1671, and died there 22 May, 1697. He was a farmer, and married in his 19th year Hannah Brown, daughter of

*The tax list of the Topsfield church for "the Farms": 1715.

Samuel Perley and his son John.....	12 shillings
Abraham How and his son.....	11 "
Stephen Perley and Timothy Perley.....	7 "
Daniel Foster.....	6 "
Abraham Foster.....	5 "
Caleb Foster.....	5 "
Jacob Foster.....	5 "
Isaac Foster.....	4½ "
Thomas Potter.....	4 "
Samuel Potter.....	3 "
Nehemiah Abbott and his son John.....	3 "

Nathaniel, of Haverhill, whose surname many searchers have sought in vain.

In the settlement of the estate the widow's bond names only one surety, "Nathaniel Brown of Haverhill". In the Howe family account book in the possession of the Ipswich Historical Society are numerous references to "cosen Brown" (1697), "weaving for mary brown" (1698), "plowing for hanah How" (1698), "cousen Hannah How" (1698), "Receaved of my cousen nathaniell brown money upon my cousen hannah account" (1698) "payd to mary brown 1s. 6d." (1698), etc. Nathaniel Brown, "carpenter living in Bradford", sold dwelling house and land in Haverhill, 11 Sept., 1700, by mortgage. No further record of him appears. Mary Brown may have been a daughter and so sister of Hannah Howe. She witnessed, 22 Nov., 1698, the signing of Hannah Howe's lease of her farm to Joseph Knowlton.

After the settlement of the estate and the lease of the farm, the widow Hannah removed to Haverhill, presumably to live with her father, and it was here that she was courted by Ephraim Roberts of Haverhill, son of Robert and Susannah Roberts of Ipswich, a cooper by trade, whose first wife, Dorothe Hendricks, had died 9 Jan., 1701-2. The Old Norfolk County records preserve the following entry:—"Jan. 10th, 1702, Ephraim Roberts of Haverhill, widower, was married to Hannah Howe, of Haverhill, widow, p. me Robert Pike; and he declared that he did renounce meddling with her estate." This record suggests a "smock marriage." Salisbury, where the marriage before the civil magistrate took place, is about fifteen miles distant from Haverhill, and the time was the depth of winter. There were already seven children in the family, including an infant born 15 Apr., 1701. By the second marriage there were two children—Patience, b. 5 July, 1703, and Mary, b. 27 Oct., 1705. Ephraim Roberts made his will, which was proved 10 July, 1738. The widow Hannah removed to Methuen, where she lived with her son Dea. James How and daughter Martha Howe, who was unmarried and was "helpful to me in my old age and sickness." Her will was dated 22 March, 1744-5, and probated 13 May, 1745.

Children of John and Hannah Howe:—

34. MARTHA, b. 13 June, 1691; d. unm.
35. SARAH, b. 8 Feb., 1692-3; d. 21 Jan., 1714-15; m. 28 Feb., 1711-12, Thomas Wood, b. Rowley, 4 Nov., 1689. He m. twice after, and d. 10 Jan., 1765. See deed, Thomas Wood to Abraham Howe, 18 April, 1734.
36. JAMES, b. 29 Mar., 1694-5. James Howe, over 14 years of age, son of John Howe, late of Ipswich, chose, 8 Feb., 1711-12, Ephraim Roberts, his father-in-law, of Haverhill, to be his guardian.—*Probate Records*, 310: 396.

16. JOHN HOWE was born in Topsfield, 3 Mar., 1669-70, and married 27 Sept., 1697, Sarah Cave of Topsfield, who died his widow, 6 May, 1730 (Topsfield Ch. Rds.). They joined the Topsfield church 30 June, 1706. He was a selectman of Boxford in 1713. The part of Boxford in which he lived became a part of Middleton, upon the set-off and incorporation of that town in 1728.

Children of John and Sarah Howe, born in Boxford :

37. MARK, b. 18 April, 1701.
38. MARY, b. 3 April, 1703; m. in Andover, 13 Jan., 1730-1, Samuel Farnum of Andover.
39. SARAH, b. 8 Jan., 1705-6; m. 25 April, 1733, Ebenezer Stiles of Middleton.
40. JOHN, b. 6 Mar., 1708-9.
41. ZERUIAH, b. 15 May, 1715; m. in Middleton, 21 April, 1737 Paul Averill, a farmer, b. in Topsfield, 16 Dec., 1711; 8 children; d. in the winter of 1805-6.
42. JOSEPH, b. 7 Oct., 1719.

23. BENJAMIN HOWE was born 5 or 8 Jan., 1687-8. He married in Topsfield, 6 Dec., 1711 (1710. c. R.), Alice Bridges. They joined the Topsfield church 28 April, 1717. He settled his sister Lydia's estate. They removed to Sutton, Mass., in 1738.

Children of Benjamin and Alice, born in Topsfield:—

43. BENJAMIN, b. 20 April, 1712; d. young.
44. SARAH, b. 22 Oct., 1713; d. 2 Sept., 1734, in Topsfield.
45. BENJAMIN, b. 6 Oct., 1717.
46. JAMES, b. 20 July, 1719.
47. SAMUEL, b. 11 Feb., 1725.

28. INCREASE HOWE was born in Ipswich-Farms, 12 April, 1680, and died 29 Jan., 1754. He married, first, Mary Whipple, int. 23 April, 1709, who died 31 Aug., 1721. He married, second, Mrs. Susannah Kinsman, int. 10 Aug., 1723. He was a taverner and a very influential citizen, socially and officially. His will was proved 11 Feb., 1754. It mentions wife Susannah and daughters Priscilla, Susannah and Elizabeth, and sons Joseph, the elder son, and John.

Children of Increase and Mary and Susannah Howe:—

48. PRISCILLA; m. 24 June, 1731, Joshua Wilson of Exeter, N. H.
49. MARY, bp. 11 Oct., 1713; m. 20 May, 1731, Jacob Brown. The wife of Jacob Brown, jr., of the Hamlet, d. 5 Aug., 1736.
50. JOSEPH, bp. 7: 7 mo., 1718; d. 30 Jan., 1725-6.
51. SARAH, bp. 12 July, 1724; d. 4 Sept., 1724.
52. SUSANNAH, bp. 13 Feb., 1725; m. 10 Feb., 1747-8, Samuel Swazey.
53. ELIZABETH, bp. 7 Mar., 1730; m. (int.) 23 May, 1747, Thomas Boardman.
54. JOSEPH, bp. 4 Sept., 1737; d. 25 Mar., 1762, aged 25 y.; fitted for college at the Feoffee's school, Ipswich; grad. at Harvard; taught the Feoffee's school; m. (int.) 9 Dec., 1758, Elizabeth Berry, dau. of Thomas Berry, Hon., Col., M. D.; d. 16 May, 1759, aged 22. Joseph, "schoolmaster", made his will 6 Mar., 1762; it was proved 6 April, 1762. His wife Elizabeth, "by and with consent of my husband," made her will 11 May, 1759, giving "estate that came to me by my honored mother's will"; paid her own funeral expenses; gave husband £133, 6s. 8d., and "my silver poringer"; my brother John, my silver tankard; South Church in Ipswich, £6. 13s. 4d., supplementing her father's gift for plate; mother Howe, a handsome ring; sister Swazey, green damask gown; sister Boardman, dark gingham gown;—my honored mother, Elizabeth Berry, the remainder.
- 54a. JOHN, bp. 4 Nov., 1744; d. 2 Aug., 1752.

29. SAMSON HOWE was born in Ipswich-Farms, 13 Nov., 1682. He was brought up by his grandfather, Lt. Francis Peabody of Topsfield, who devised to him land there. Mr. Howe received, in 1718, upon the death of his father, his share of the paternal estate. In July, 1728, at Killingly, Ct., he and his wife Alice deeded to Thomas Perley all their right and interest in property that had

been his brother Nathaniel's of Boxford, and described in a deed from "our honored father, John Perley." A paper, without date, probably written about the time Samson settled in Killingly, empowered his father Abraham, as his attorney, to manage his estate and "concerns." Miss Larned's History of Windham County, Ct., says:—Mr. Howe settled in "Nashuway", between Quinnabaug and French River,—beyond Connecticut's limit, though reckoned in Killingly, 1708, and was a proprietor in Killingly, 1709, thus arguing a return to Boxford, for his betrothed.

Samson Howe married, in Boxford, 8 June, 1710, Alice Perley, daughter of John and Mary (Howlett) Perley, of Boxford. She joined the First church in Boxford, 1706, and died, in Killingly, 19 July, 1746, in her 66th year. Samson brought a letter from the Woodstock church and joined the Killingly church, 19 Oct., 1715, the day that church was organized. He died in Killingly, 3 Sept., 1736. He was a captain, and held his commission from the English crown, and was the first man buried with military honors in that town. He left a large estate. His widow had half the land. But if she married she was to have £80; and outliving her second husband, she could return to the old homestead, if she wished. The value of his stock was £236; his armor, £25; his two negroes, £200. Of the negroes, his son Samson had "Leah", and Perley had "Caesar".

He was chosen clerk of the first meeting of the inhabitants, to form a religious society in the northern part of Killingly. He was one of the committee to lay out the ministerial lands—150 acres; to raise the meeting-house before winter set in; to lay the meeting-house floor and to seat the meeting-house. The North Society of Killingly, afterwards called Thompson Parish, was formed 23 Jan., 1730; the ordination was 25 Feb., 1730, with these members: Marston Cabot, pastor-elect: Benjamin Bixby, Samson Howe, and 24 others.

Mr. Howe was influential in establishing the state line that fixed the northern boundary of the county; he was, in 1729, one of a committee on roads; about 1726, was

licensed taverner; in 1715, he and Comfort Starr* bought the Whiting 1000-acre farm, to which Samson, son of Rev. Perley Howe, succeeded, taking the share his grandfather owned.

Children of Samson and Alice Howe:—

55. PERLEY, b. 1711.

56. ALICE; m. (int.) in Dudley, 7 Mar., 1739-40, Thomas Newell.

57. SAMSON.

30. LIEUT. ABRAHAM HOWE was born 27 June, 1686, and died 6 Mar., 1770, in the place of his birth, the Farms. He married, 31 Jan., 1712, Hephzibah Andrews, who was baptized 5 July, 1691, and died 13 April, 1753. She united with the church 30 Aug., 1719. This is the man who built his house and had it ready for his bride, on the orchard land purchased in 1711. He was a farmer. His will is dated 11 Mar., 1762. He was lieutenant in the militia.

Children of Abraham and Hephzibah Howe:—

58. MERCY, b. 3 Mar., 1713-14; m. (int.) 15 July, 1738, John Fowler, jr., of the Farms.

59. JEMIMA, b. 6. 12m., 1715-16; d. 20 June, 1795; m. 23 July, 1776, Jeremiah Smith of Linebrook Parish. He lived next east of the school house, and gave the land it rests upon so long as used for school purposes. He was b. 11 Nov., 1712, to John and Hannah, and d. 24 May, 1795.

60. HEPHZIBAH, b. 26 Feb., 1717-18; joined the church 27 June, 1742; d. 30 Nov., 1781; m. 1 Feb., 1753, Daniel Kimball of Linebrook Parish.

*This historical note suggests a colony from Ipswich-Farms and vicinity. Comfort Starr's wife was niece of Samson Howe's wife (See p. 13, Perley Family History and Genealogy). John Younglove of the Farms and Isaac Jewett of Rowley "followed Samson Howe." The first regular datable settler in Thompson was Richard Dresser of Rowley, who, in 1708, married Mary Peabody of Rowley, and had Jacob, born 1710, the first white male child born in the town. Dresser sold his "Nashuway" estate to Samson Howe. He died a few days after 9 July, 1728. Jacob, when only 18, "worked with a will," with cart and oxen, in building the meeting-house. He was Parish Clerk in 1741 and many following years, and was often in other offices. Benjamin Bixby from Topsfield was the first settler on Brandy Hill. Jacob Bixby, his nephew, and Nathaniel Brown of Killingly settled around there between 1721 and 1726. Was he the Nathaniel Brown of Family 12?

61. SARAH, bp. 4. 12 m., 1719; m. 4 Aug., 1771, Caleb Pool of Gloucester.
62. RUTH, b. 19 April, 1722; m. (int.) 10 Jan., 1741, Samuel Perley, a neighbor. See Perley Family History and Genealogy, p. 47.
63. ABRAHAM, b. 2 Jan., 1724-5.
64. ELIZABETH, b. 30 Sept., 1728; m. 26 Dec., 1761, Nimphas Stacey, of Gloucester; joined the church 27 June, 1742.

32. DR. ISRAEL HOWE was born 24 Jan., 1692-3, and died 15 July, 1740. He was a physician in Andover, locating there about 1718. He married (int.) 4 Sept., 1714, Mercy Warner of Ipswich, who died 20 Oct., 1765, aged 79 years. His widow Mercy settled the estate. The inventory, dated 6 May, 1741: 3 acres, with houses and barn, £175; money on bond, £32. 11s.; total, £415. 7s. 6d.

Children of Israel and Mercy Howe:—

65. ISRAEL, bp. 12 Feb., 1715-16, in Topsfield.
66. KETURAH, bp. 5: 3 m., 1717, in Ipswich; d. Andover, 30 June, 1786, aged 69; m., in Andover, Philemon Chandler, jr., 26 Nov., 1739. Children: John, b. 26 April, 1740; d. 5 Jan., 1766; Elizabeth, b. 29 Jan., 1748-9.
67. DANIEL, b. 1 May, 1719, Andover.
68. SARAH, b. —ber (bp. 25 Sept.), 1720; d. 11 Feb., 1720-1.
69. SARAH, b. 7 Feb., 1721-2.
70. HANNAH, b. 5 April, 1724.
71. PRISCILLA, b. 24 June, 1726.

33. DEA. MARK HOWE was born 28 Mar., 1695, and died 17 Feb., 1770. He married, first, 20 Dec., 1722, Hephzibah Perkins, who died 30 Jan., 1759; married, second, 11 Oct., 1759, widow Margaret Perley, who died 1 Sept., 1762 (See Perley History, p. 38); he married, third, 26 April, 1763, Elizabeth Bradstreet, who married, 19 June, 1770, Dea. Caleb Pool of Gloucester. Dea. Mark joined the church 30 Aug., 1724; Hephzibah the week before. "Violet", a negro slave, was sold by Joseph Parker to Samuel Bradstreet, then to Deacon Howe. In June, 1766, she sued Mr. Howe for her liberty. The court came in July.

"Sept. 10, 1766, then received of Mark Howe ye sum of twenty shillings in full of all debts, dues and demands

of what name or nature soever from ye beginning of ye world to this day—I say Received by me as witness my hand and seal in the presence of these witnesses :

John Fowler

her

Benja. Bixby

Vilet X (L. S.)
mark

For 8 visits and medicine in May and June, 1753, Dr. Jonathan Prince of Danvers charged Deacon Howe £2 15s. 4d.

Mark Howe, gentleman, was commissioned, 23 Sept., 1749, by Wm. Shirley, Governor and Capt.-Gen., as *Lieutenant* of the First company of Foot in Linebrook Parish, Ipswich, in the 2nd Regiment, Thomas Berry, Colonel. This interesting document was preserved by the late Wellington Pool, Esq., many years town clerk of Wenham. The Essex Institute has an excellent photograph of it. Lieut. Howe seems to have been a recruiting officer. He impressed, 15 Aug., 1757, John Smith's gun for Jacob Howe, jr., valued £1. 6s. 8d. The next day Daniel Kimball's gun was impressed for Francis "Setchel" (Shatswell), value £1. 14s. 8d., and Nehemiah Abbott's for Jonathan Chapman, valued £1. 6s. 8d.

An account of the soldiers under the command of Lt. Mark Howe that have enlisted into his Majesty's service, in defence of the North America :

Michael Holgate and Mark Howe, Jr., a whole turn each for Capt. Herrick—15 Mch., 1755.

In 1755, Mark Fisk, John Daniels, Ebenezer Davis, Jere. Setchel (Shatswell), for Crown Point, under Capt. Whipple, a half turn each.

Sept. 15, 1755, Nehemiah Abbott, a whole turn, for Crown Point, under Capt. Isaac Smith, hired by Allen Perley.

1756, Daniel Chapman, Jr., and Ebenezer Davis, Jere Satchel, a whole term each, for Capt. Israel Davis, to Crown Point. Setchel hired by Zechariah Dunnells. Also Asa Holgate and two Hams[h]eir men, hired on the Parish's account for Crown Point.

Anthony Potter and Samuel Potter, a whole turn each for Capt. Davis at Crown Point.

NEWSPAPER ITEMS RELATING TO TOPSFIELD.

COPIED FROM SALEM NEWSPAPERS

BY GEORGE FRANCIS DOW.

(Continued from Volume XXII, page 79.)

TOPSFIELD.

The Methodist Episcopal Society of Topsfield, will give a grand entertainment, consisting of dramas, farces, declamations, representations, and tableaux, together with a concert of vocal and instrumental music, the whole to conclude with a grand promenade concert, at Union Hall, on Wednesday evening of this week. Miss Mary Munday, the young and accomplished organist, will preside at the organ.

Fire.—On Friday forenoon, at about half past ten o'clock, the barn of widow William Perkins, near the Danvers line, was discovered to be on fire; and, there being no fire department in town, before sufficient assistance could be procured, it was destroyed with its contents, which included one horse, two heifers, one cow, and several tons of hay. No doubt exists that the fire was the work of an incendiary.

Salem Gazette, Jan. 20, 1869.

TOPSFIELD.

A "Combination Entertainment."—On Wednesday evening, Union Hall, in the basement of the Methodist Church, was densely packed with an interested audience, who were gathered for the purpose of witnessing and

listening to what proved a very pleasant as well as amusing, entertainment. It was under the auspices, and for the benefit, of the Sunday School connected with the Methodist Church, of which Mr. C. J. P. Floyd, the faithful expressman between Salem and Topsfield, and who is no doubt pleasantly remembered by the Massachusetts Twenty-Third boys, having served with credit in Capt. Whipple's Company F. of that regiment, is the Superintendent. It was to Mr. Floyd's efforts that the citizens were indebted for the very pleasing and successful combination of attractions offered.

The Haverhill Orchestral Band,—of which Mr. Rufus Williams is director, and in which we observed that excellent bass vocalist, Mr. Charles Stanton, formerly of Salem, as a member,—supplied an efficient orchestra, opening with an overture and seasoning the entire programme with intervals of good music, including that pretty piece, the "Golden Robin Polka." Following the overture, came a representation of "The Rainbow," in which seven little girls, dressed in the different colors, recited verses characterizing the particular attractions of each color, in voices clear and distinct. Next came a well sung solo and chorus, "'Tis for Him that Mother's Weeping," in which Miss Sarah J. T. Floyd sung the solo.

The tableaux in two parts, representing the sunshine and shadow of "The Village School," revealed a row of boys improving the absence of the teacher by a gay time, with the dunce in the fool's cap in a distant part of the room—the "Shadow" being represented with faces and heads in the attitude of perplexing study.

Master C. O. Floyd's declamation of "The Apparition", was a humorous description of the experience of one Smith at a big hotel near the sea-shore, where he went to bed in a state of sufficient intoxication to mistake the reflection of a revolving light shining into his room at intervals, for a supernatural influence at work upon his own lamp.

After a duet by Misses D. T. Sweeny and S. J. T. Floyd, a dramatic farce, entitled "Gallant, or a Fortune Won and Lost," was played by three characters—Miss Sarah E.

Towne representing *Mrs. DeForest*; William Clough representing *Augustus DeForest*; and Miss Ellen M. Towne representing *Bridget*. Mrs. DeForest was the head of an aristocratic establishment, and in the presence of her son Augustus, Bridget applies for a situation and is finally accepted with a haughty air. Bridget, after getting a good view of the inside life of the family by virtue of her assumed position, reveals herself as a niece supposed to have been long dead, and the real owner of the property on which the aunt was keeping up appearances. Things of course take a new turn, justice reigns, and all get their dues. In the playing of the parts, Bridget fingered the melodeon keys with every appearance of an expert, and most of the audience didn't mistrust, probably, that the real music came from "behind the scenes." Mrs. DeForest was of course becomingly overwhelmed with grief at the unexpected announcement of the sudden turn of affairs, and hid the demonstrations of her face behind her handkerchief—a shield which proved very efficacious in causing some perplexity on the part of the audience whether she were feigning crying, or in reality laughing.

"Lamplight," a charade in tableaux, in three parts: a pathetic solo and chorus (Miss Floyd, soloist); and the drama "We're all Tetotallers," followed. The characters in this play were, *Farmer Maple*, Mr. B. P. Pike; *Sarah Ann, his Wife*, Mrs. S. R. Phillips; *Huldah, their Daughter*, Miss Lucy Herrick; *Jirah*, Chas. Conly; *Hez*, C. O. Floyd; *Tom Townbred*, Mr. Geo. Perkins. This farce represented a family who made great pretensions as total abstinence folks, but who each, one by one, stealthily and on the sly, proceeded to "treat" a relative from New York to a drink. By a ruse the family were finally converted into real temperance people, and all went well. Farmer Maple acted his part finely, and looked like the same natural born farmer who comes into Salem market—needing only the speckled horse to complete his equipage. The two boys, also, acted conspicuously well, and all performed creditably.

A solo and chorus,—"'Tis past Midnight, why don't he come?" was sung, (Miss Sweeney singing the solo), music

by the band, and a charade tableaux, in three parts, "Good Night," closed the exhibition. Refreshments followed, and a promenade concert was kept up till about midnight. The affair was highly successful in every point of view.

Festival in Aid of the Centre School.—On Thursday evening next there will be a festival at Union Hall, consisting of declamations, dialogues, etc., by the pupils of the public shools, at which there will be an antiquarian supper, railroad to the moon, and other attractions. The proceeds of the entertainment will be devoted to the laudable object of furnishing and ornamenting the rooms of the Centre School. If the weather is unfavorable on Thursday, the entertainment will be given on Friday evening.

Salem Gazette, Jan. 22, 1869.

TOPSFIELD.

The Festival.—Those who, having arrived at maturity, can still enjoy a good time, and who consider the presence of a happy multitude of children as no drawback to their pleasure, *missed it*, most decidedly, if they neglected to attend the Festival held at Union Hall in this town, on the evening of Thursday, the 28th ult. The Festival was given by the pupils of the public schools, under the immediate direction of Mr. H. Balch, Principal of the Centre Grammar School. The various features of the entertainment were superintended by a committee of ladies in a manner highly creditable to themselves.

In the plan of the entertainment, the tastes of all were consulted, and any one who failed to pass the evening pleasantly, must have been hard to please. The recitation of "Sheridan's Ride," by Miss Laura Lake, and of "Barbara Freitchie" by Miss Ruth Lake, were extremely well rendered, and met with the approbation of all.

The dialogue of Cinderilla was very effective, and was rendered especially so, by the superior manner in which the parts of "The Fairy Godmother" and Cinderilla, were performed by Miss Alice Long, and Miss Laura Lake. The same is also true of the dialogue of "Mrs. Weatherbox" in which Miss Long took a prominent part. The tableau of the "*Marriage* of Cinderilla" at the close of the dia-

logue, was excellent, as also the tableau of "St. Agness." This last, was an *impromptu*, arranged at a moment's notice, by one of the young ladies, and was very well conceived.

The singing of "The sweet face in the window" and "City of Light" by Alice Curtis, a pretty little four year old, was one of the most pleasant features of the evening.

The Antiquarian kitchen, in charge of Mrs. Leach, Mrs. Gould, and Mrs. Munday, presented attractions which proved irresistible to those who enjoy the "good things of life;" while to those of a roving disposition, the "Railroad to the Moon," of which Miss Mary Gould was superintendent, offered unrivalled facilities for travelling. We understand that the above R. R. Co. has declared a handsome dividend.

In a word, the affair was in the highest degree successful, and the funds raised will go far towards accomplishing the desired object, viz: "furnishing and ornamenting the Centre school rooms." Williams' Orchestra Band, of Haverhill, furnished most excellent music for the occasion.

Salem Gazette, Feb. 10, 1869.

TOPSFIELD.

On Tuesday evening, Feb. 16, the young ladies connected with the Congregational Society in this place, will offer an agreeable and diversified entertainment consisting of vocal and instrumental music, a farce, and living tableaux illuminated with a magnesium light. A band will be in attendance and refreshments will be served. The Topsfield people know how to get up these things, and the audience may be sure of getting their money's worth.

We have had a summer day, the thermometer indicating 60 in the shade, and the fine sleighing which we have had for ten days past has entirely gone. We have had a remarkable winter; the thermometer has not indicated zero at any time, and still there has been secured one of the best ice crops I have ever known, 15 inches in thickness.

The prevailing epidemic still continues. Many persons of all ages are prostrated by it, and three very sudden deaths have occurred:—Mrs. Mary Cross, aged 79, and her sister, Mrs. Hannah Gunnison, aged 76, widows, and who have lived together many years, died within three days of each other; and a young man, son of Mr. Waldo Towne, aged about 16. Neither of them had been sick more than three or four days. I understand that Dr. Allen has 75 persons under his care from this complaint.

Salem Gazette, Feb. 17, 1869.

TOPSFIELD.

During the night of the entertainment, on Tuesday evening, the Methodist vestry, in which it had been held, was entered through a window, and several articles of clothing stolen. The next morning, a couple of suits of decidedly poor clothing were found in an adjacent barn, and it is supposed the thieves had there exchanged them for the articles stolen. Among the things missing were a light surtout with high fur collar, a short sailor overcoat nearly new, trimmed with black velvet; a pair of dark brown, large plaid pants; a swallow-tailed coat with brass buttons; and old fashioned white vest; a light felt hat with broad black ribbon; and two pairs of shoes, one of which had rubber soles.

Mr. John Parkinson's tailoring establishment was broken into the same night and a valuable pair of pants were stolen, which he had just finished for a customer. I hear that the young folks are thinking of repeating the exhibition, to raise funds to remunerate the losers of the garments which were stolen at the hall. I hope it may be done, as the loss falls upon some who are not able to lose, and besides, the exercises will bear a repetition, as they were of a fine order and got up with much care by the best talent and taste in such matters. It was the expression of all who are judges, that the dialogues and tableaux were carried through with artistic skill and are worth repeating, to say nothing of the worthy object of its repetition.

The prevailing epidemic still continues and many are sick with it—some very low.

[Another correspondent adds the following particulars of the Festival of Tuesday evening, last week]:

The entertainment commenced with the exhibition in Statuary of the "Sculptor's Dream," in which characters, Miss Lizzie Gould, Miss Higgins, Miss Ruth Lake, and Mr. Fred Clapp, took part, and which was very good indeed. Next came the old farce of "Poor Pillicoddy," which was the best of all. This was finely represented by the following parties: Capt. O'Scuttle, Mr. S. A. Merriam, Mrs. Capt. O'Scuttle, Miss Mary Adams, Poor Pillicoddy, Mr. R. G. Tappan, of Topsfield, Sarah, by Mrs. Albert N. Conant of New York, Mrs. Pillicoddy, Miss Ruth Perley. This was a very laughable farce. In justice to Mrs. Conant (Sarah) we must say that she performed her part to perfection, and in a manner that would do credit to the stage of any city theatre. "Too late for the train," was also quite amusing, and caused considerable merriment. This was well represented by Mr. Wm. Waitt, Jr., Master Norman McCloud, and Miss Sarah E. Edwards. "Taking the Oath" was also very good, and well represented by Mr. S. A. Merriam and Miss Hattie Kimball. Our citizens are much indebted to the energetic exertions of Mrs. Thomas K. Leach, Mrs. A. H. Gould, Mrs. Lucy Wright, Mrs. D. J. Carlton, and many other kind ladies, who furnished the tables with nice cake and pies, with a liberal and unsparing hand. And all voluntarily. The ice creams for this occasion were very nice indeed, and were prepared by the skilful hand of Mrs. Thomas K. Leach, whose fame in this particular is well known, both at home, and abroad.

The good old town of Topsfield used to be noted in by-gone days for the beauty of its location and of its *ladies*; for its singers, and for the delightful entertainments arranged by its citizens. In none of these respects has it fallen below its ancient renown, judging from the entertainment given last evening by the young ladies connected with the Congregational Society.

The programme consisted of some 10 tableaux vivants,

of which the Sculptor's Dream,—(so accurately produced that I haven't a doubt many went away with the impression that the figures were really marble,) Too late for the train, Hiawatha's Wooing, and Taking the Oath, were especially appreciated by the audience. The Farce of Poor Pillicoddy was so appropriately rendered that were we not assured the performers were amateurs, we should suppose them veteran actors. The many fair faces fully sustained the ancient reputation for beauty, while the single song (far too briefly) told of its present singers. If it has many misses like the little fairy, who, too young to speak distinctly, yet warbled so charmingly its future standing is beyond question.

Owing to the shocking condition of the roads, occasioned by the storm of Monday, the gathering was not so large as we feel assured, will greet the repetition, which we learn is in contemplation, at no distant day, at the urgent solicitation of the public.

VIATOR.

Salem Gazette, Feb. 24, 1869.

TOPSFIELD.

Finances.—The amount of money expended during the year was \$13,447.39; the amount received, from various sources, \$16,606.94—leaving \$3,159.55 remaining in the treasury at the beginning of the new year. The expenditures included the following items. For schools, \$1,114.42; poor, \$1,456.06; town officers, \$339.48; roads and bridges, \$1,055.50; pathing snow, \$769.55; notes paid, \$1,650; interest, \$1,095.20; State aid, \$813; Academy, \$3,364.86; miscellaneous, \$1,761.15. Of the amount expended, \$5,307.64 constitute the *ordinary* town expenses. The net cost of refitting the Academy building over and above receipts from various sources, including sale of old house, was \$2,791.02; In addition to this a bell has been placed in the building, by the juvenile society, at a cost of \$138.48.

The total liabilities of the town are \$21,702.72, which includes an interest bearing debt of \$20,425. The available assets are \$4,504.55—leaving a balance against the town of \$17,198.17.

There are now in Topsfield, 116 regular paying subscribers for the Salem Gazette and Essex County Mercury, which is more than one to every ten of its inhabitants. If the selection of newspaper reading may be regarded as a criterion of the wisdom of a people, then the Mercury can claim to be a very good paper if our people do not fail in their judgment. I very much doubt if so large a number of a single paper is taken in any town in the county proportionate to the population, where at the same time a large number of dailies from Boston as well as the weeklies and semi-weeklies from other places are taken. Either from lack of judgment on the part of the readers of the Mercury, or failure of argument to convince, Mr. Dana did not get a very full vote here last November, and I suppose it would not be uncharitable to conclude that the Mercury attributes it to the lack of good judgment on the part of its readers. However that may be, I beg to be allowed to volunteer my advice, to let Butler alone unless the Mercury has some good thing to say of him; and nine tenths of its readers will be quite as well satisfied.

The tea party which our young folks got up last Thursday evening was (considering the bad travelling and prevailing sickness) quite satisfactory and remunerative. The hall was well filled, and tables as usual on such occasions, "groaned" with good things to eat and drink, and as the understanding was that the tables "must be cleared of their loads," the crowd with a simultaneous consent to obey orders took hold, and the tables *were* cleared.

Salem Gazette, Mar. 3, 1869.

REAL ESTATE AT AUCTION IN TOPSFIELD.

Will be sold on THURSDAY, April 1, at one o'clock P. M., on the premises:

The subscriber about removing from the state, will sell his estate by auction on the above day and date. This property consists of $1\frac{1}{2}$ acres of land, with house, barn, &c. The house is one and a half stories 40x22 with cut in piazza containing 9 rooms papered, painted, grained and blinded, with a large elm tree in front. Barn 22x28 with shop on the second floor, and carriage room, &c. The

land is under a good state of cultivation. There are 30 apple, pear and quince trees, &c., with a fine spring of water within 3 rods of the buildings. It is one mile from depot, churches and stores, one half mile from school, and in good repair. Also a lot of furniture, &c. Conditions at sale.

CYRUS PEABODY,

Topsfield, March 9, 1869.

S. D. HOOD, Auct.

Town Officers—chosen March 2.

Moderator—Richard Phillips, Jr.

Selectmen—Andrew Gould, J. W. Batchelder, David Clarke.

Town Clerk—J. P. Towne.

Assessors—M. B. Perkins, S. D. Hood, Andrew Gould.

Overseers of Poor—Ansel Gould, E. P. Peabody, S. D. Hood.

Treasurer—J. Porter Gould.

Collector—Dudley Bradstreet.

Fish Committee—S. Clarke, S. S. McKenzie, M. B. Perkins, W. H. Munday, C. A. Averill.

Fence Viewers—J. W. Reed, T. D. Reed, A. Balch.

School Committee—R. Phillips, Jr., Jeremiah Balch, for three years each; J. P. Perkins, for one year.

Field Drivers—A. L. Kneeland, A. A. Andrews, S. Beckford, A. Balch.

Surveyors of Lumber—T. K. Leach, J. H. Potter, D. Willey, S. Clarke.

Surveyors of Highways—Benj. Conant, Dudley Perkins, C. A. Averill, J. A. Towne, B. J. Balch, Thomas Cass, T. K. Leach, Jacob Kinsman, E. P. Andrews, M. B. Perkins.

Constables—B. A. Orne, H. W. Lake, Benj. Lane.

Sum raised (money tax) \$5,000—\$1,000 of this appropriated to schools. Raised for highways (to be paid in labor,) \$1,000.

The examination of the South school took place on Friday afternoon. The scholars were examined in reading, arithmetic, geography, grammar and other scholastic exercises, in which a commendable improvement was manifest. The class in grammar passed a critical examin-

ation by the Superintendent, Mr. Balch, and W. S. Wallace, Esq., and denoted a laudable progress. Several declamations were given by the young gentlemen and ladies of the school. This school has lost one of its members during the winter; Willie, son of Mr. J. Waldo Towne, died suddenly a few weeks since. Among the exercises, two pieces were spoken, having reference to the death of Willie; one by Florence Balch, aged 8 years, a daughter of Mr. Benjamin J. Balch, the other by Ella Towne, which were excellent, and made a deep impression upon the visitors and scholars; a piece by Elvira Towne, called "'Tis sweet to be remembered," was highly complimented by a teacher of much experience. The Valedictory was given with excellent taste and spirit, by Miss Ella Towne, a promising young lady, daughter of Jacob A. Towne, Esq.

On Saturday afternoon, the funeral of Miss Sarah E. Perkins, was attended in the Congregational church. A large concourse of relatives and friends were present to pay their last respects to all that was mortal, of this greatly beloved and highly respected young lady. She died very suddenly, and her death has cast a deep gloom over our whole community. The exercises were exceedingly solemn and impressive. A heartfelt sympathy with the stricken mourners was manifested by all present. Sorrow and sadness pervaded the large assembly. The remarks and prayer, by Rev. Mr. McLoud, were listened to with serious attention. He remarked that death, of late, had visited us often; that we were walking among graves. He spoke of many good qualities of the deceased, which were appreciated by all present. The sacred music was under the direction of Prof. Ephraim Averill, his choir being assisted by Mrs. How of Newburyport, daughter of the professor; Miss Sarah Leach presided at the organ. The music was excellent and full of solemn expression.

Salem Gazette, Mar. 10, 1869.

Yesterday, March 31st, the Congregational Parish held their annual meeting. The following officers were chosen:

Moderator—Richard Phillips, jr.

Parish Committee—Humphrey Balch, Elbridge F. Perkins, A. S. Peabody.

Treasurer—Silas Cochrane.

The following motion was presented to the meeting:

"Moved—That we pay Mr. McLoud, all that is due up to the present time, and also appropriate four hundred dollars for six months pay from this date, at the expiration of which time, his connection with this society shall cease, as per agreement in his settlement."

It was moved that this motion should be laid upon the table which, after a spirited discussion was carried by 17 voting in the affirmative and 15 in the negative. Several prominent members not voting.

The owners of the late Dr. Cleaveland's estate, have sold out to a Mr. Huse of Haverhill.

On the evening of Fast day there will be an entertainment at Union hall, the proceeds of which will be devoted to the painting of the interior of the Congregational church. The farce of Poor Pillicoddy will be repeated, with a new selection of tableaux vivants, charades and statuary. If the weather is stormy, the performance will be postponed till the next fair evening.

Salem Gazette, Apr. 6, 1869.

Under this head, a paragraph in the last "Mercury" gave some account of a recent meeting held by the Congregational Parish in this town. The statement, as it stood, must have led those who took the trouble to read it, to infer that the society is about equally divided on the question then and there brought up, and that the Rev. Mr. McLoud came within two votes of being summarily dismissed. As this matter has been thus needlessly lugged before the public, and as the communication has probably given erroneous impressions to some of your readers, we take the opportunity to state, that the meeting referred to, was the regular, annual parish meeting. Such meetings are always called by the Parish Committee, a notice, precisely stating what matters are to come before the parish, being duly posted. The attendance, except when something special is expected, is usually small. The public notice, on this occasion, made no mention of any unusual action. Whatever may have been done in the way of private cau-

cus and consultation, there had been no general notice of what was intended. Of course those who were not in the secret, were taken by surprise. Strong objection was made to the motion, not only as being underhanded, but as clearly illegal. The chairman, however, entertained it, and it was then laid on the table. Had due notice been given there would certainly have been a larger meeting and a larger majority. It should be remembered also that the Parish is a part only of the society. Could the question have been put to all who attend upon and who help support the ministry here, the result would have worn a very different aspect.

What we specially object to in the procedure, is that the mode of action resorted to was needlessly offensive and studiously unkind. The result aimed at might have been reached, without one unfeeling act, or harsh word. Most men would feel that an earnest, faithful, poorly paid ministry of twenty-seven years, entitles the incumbent to *some* kindly consideration, and if he must be turned off, that the change should be made with every alleviation possible in the case.

The probability now is that Mr. McLoud will soon leave the place in which he has labored so faithfully and so long. Indeed, he has already asked the church to unite with him in calling a council for dismissal. Whatever action the church and the society may take in regard to it, that action, we firmly believe, will leave no doubt in his mind, or elsewhere, that he has in a high degree, the respect and esteem of all here, whose respect is worth having.

Salem Gazette, Apr. 13, 1869.

Under the pastorate of W. D. Bridge, the Methodist church, and society have increased in strength, and numbers. He will be stationed at Rockport the ensuing year, while Rev. Mr. Chase, of Salem, will come to Topsfield.

There was expended for the support of schools in this town, during the year ending in March, \$1,132.50; of which amount the town appropriation was \$1,000. The number of all ages attending in summer was 218; in winter, 239. There were 6 who attended under five years

and 20 over fifteen. The committee, in their report, express the opinion that, upon the whole, the schools have been prosperous through the year. They advocate the retention and continuing of such teachers as have given good satisfaction: recommend, as a means of improvement, the continuing of the schools through a greater portion of the year with shorter vacations,—“much that had previously been learned, beside the habit of study,” the committee say “is often lost to the pupil by being away from school, through a long vacation;”—and advise the parents to manifest an interest in the schools, in order that the children may feel renewed encouragement and the teachers reap the greater fruits from their labors.

We have on hand a supply of communications from our neighboring town of Topsfield in reference to the affairs of the Congregational church in that place. We do not doubt that the publication of all of them would constitute an interesting budget for the perusal of the good folks of that pleasant town and the region round about; for the details of church differences, like the particulars of family quarrels, are alike entertaining to the outside world and are apt to be altogether dissimilar in the amount and quality of christian zeal displayed in conducting them to an issue and a settlement.

Upon all questions involving great public interests, political, religious or social, we are always ready, within reasonable limits, to open our columns for communications. If we classed among these, however, such parish difficulties as involve, chiefly, the merits of a minister, we rather think our hands would be uncomfortably full. We became unwittingly involved in the Topsfield controversy by publishing the action of a parish meeting where a proposed vote, intended to sever the pastoral relation of the minister, was lost—17 to 15. As the simple publication of this vote, even without comment, was certainly calculated to show that the society was about evenly divided concerning the minister, the pastor's friends, who declared that the fact was notoriously otherwise, claimed the indulgence of a counter statement, which appeared to us no more than just and reasonable. Out of three communica-

tions sent to us upon this side of the question, we selected one which appeared to be written in good tone and spirit, and which declared that the action proposed was illegal, as no notice of it was previously given, and that it was snapped upon the meeting unawares, very much as political work is sometimes done in a party caucus. In reply to this we have now sent to us another communication for the purpose of refuting the statements of the last. This, also, we desire to say, is written in good tone and is entirely free from unkind phrases. But we believe we must stop the subject here, with the simple statement, as a matter of further justice, that the writer desires it to be understood, in behalf of his side in the controversy, that the meeting was large for a parish meeting; that, in his judgment, five more could not have been induced to attend whatever the object; and that it was well known that the subject of dissolving the pastoral relation would, in some shape, be brought up. We do not doubt, on the other hand, that a score of pens stand ready to write something more upon the other side, and so on, *ad infinitum*.

But as all good things of this kind must have a termination, we propose to have this terminate just here, so far as our paper is concerned. Meantime, to the good people of the Topsfield church, as well as to those of other parishes, we desire to say that every difference of this kind offers a convenient opportunity to exemplify that spirit of love, peace and goodwill, which lies at the foundation of the Christian religion, and without which the people of no church can possibly reap much advantage in a comparison with the world without. Conduct your discussions, therefore, with forbearance and charity towards one another, and in order that the influence of the Gazette and Mercury may, as much as possible, conduce to this result, we cheerfully close its columns to any further ventilation of the question.

Salem Gazette, Apr. 13, 1869.

The chief topic of conversation is the prospective dissolution of the pastoral relation between Rev. Mr. McLoud and the Congregational Church. At the annual meeting action was taken which indicated upon its face, a desire to have the pastoral relation severed at an early day. One portion

considered the opposition of little account as a special effort had been made to make the most of the opposition. The pastor however, requested that a council be called. It met last Tuesday and after lengthy deliberation recommended a dissolution of the pastoral relation. The general verdict of the committee is that it is a wise one under the circumstances. Mr. McLoud has been with the society about 27 years and two years ago his 25th anniversary was celebrated. As a public speaker, combining the graces of oratory, no one could claim that he was superior. * * * He, however, exhibited good abilities in his public performances. * * * It is not improbable that the gradual settling of younger ministers in the towns about may largely account for the present situation. * * *

Benj. F. Adams has sold his place on the turnpike to J. W. Beale, a former citizen, who has recently returned from a short residence in the West.

Nehemiah Cleaveland has sold his estate to a Mr. Hewes of Haverhill, shoe manufacturer. We understand that Mr. Cleaveland goes west. The estate has been owned by the family about 90 years.

Ex-Pres. Peirce has been visiting here this week with his cousin Thomas W. Peirce.

Salem Gazette, May 4, 1869.

At a meeting of the Congregational Church, held on Wednesday evening, in relation to the decision of the Ecclesiastical Council, last week, in regard to the resignation of Rev. Mr. McLoud, it was voted that the decision be affirmed, by a vote of 13 to 6.

Salem Gazette, May 12, 1869.

Some time last fall the old house of Parker B. Perley, in the western part of the town was torn down to make room for a new house since erected, and yesterday a brick from the old house was brought in for our inspection. It was marked in figures "1700." Expressman Floyd has presented it to the Essex Institute.

Salem Gazette, May 28, 1869.

Celebration of 25th anniversary of the wedding of Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Gould with a poem by C. H. Holmes.

Miss Mehitable Peabody, aged 47 years, died at residence of her brother-in-law, Jacob A. Towne, on the 24th inst.

Salem Gazette, June 4, 1869.

Samuel Todd appointed Justice of the Peace.

The store of Thomas W. Perley was broken into. Loss about \$10.

Salem Gazette, July 27, 1869.

John Parkinson's tavern and tailor's establishment was broken into, it being the second time within a few months. Loss, 2 watches, money and clothing.

Salem Gazette, Aug. 31, 1869.

The following are the names of those persons in the town of Topsfield who pay a cash tax of forty dollars and upwards, the present year, 1869. Rate of taxation, \$10.50 on \$1000.

B. F. Adams,	\$68 27	Eph. P. Peabody,	40 26
John Bailey,	48 73	Moses B. Perkins,	68 12
Humphrey Balch,	71 47	Dudley Perkins,	82 21
Abraham Balch,	67 08	Est. David Perkins,	42 84
Dudley Bradstreet,	59 25	Est. Daniel Perkins,	49 47
Benj. Conant,	45 84	Mary S. Perkins,	51 33
David Clarke,	72 07	David A. Pettengill,	65 06
Alfred Cummings,	} 42 70	R. Phillips, jr.,	42 57
Ex'r Est. of Wm.		Thomas W. Pierce,	479 39
Cummings,		Est. Asa Pingree,	557 98
James P. Chandler,	42 66	Benj. Poole,	65 16
Est. John Dwinell,	82 78	William Smith,	58 58
Andrew Gould,	61 23	Mary Taylor,	57 40
A. H. Gould,	102 12	Eben W. Towne,	43 20
Charles Herrick,	146 22	Benj. B. Towne,	116 89
C. Herrick & Co.	157 50	Jacob A. Towne,	43 32
Charles H. Holmes,	63 43	Jacob W. Towne,	59 23
William H. Hewes,	57 86	J. P. Towne,	80 88
William E. Kimball,	66 46	Lorenzo P. Towne,	65 50
William B. Kimball,	47 89	Joseph Towne,	59 49
Charles H. Lake,	47 73	David Towne,	63 48
Est. J. B. Lamson,	90 90	Daniel Towne,	43 24
Henry Long,	41 95	Moses Wildes,	342 44
Est. R. A. Merriam,	71 91	John S. Wallace,	52 10
William Munday,	50 07	A. S. Peabody,	41 23

ANDREW GOULD, Chairman of the Assessors.

Salem Gazette, Oct. 1, 1869.

The Congregational church and society has given Rev. E. P. Tenney a call, salary \$1,400.00.

Salem Gazette, Nov. 12, 1869.

Andrew Gould has bought and is refitting the Parkinson house in one end of which Parkinson will continue his tailoring. John Bailey has purchased a house opposite Herrick's shoe factory. A. H. Gould and Dudley Bradstreet have enlarged and improved the Academy L, which a year and a half ago was moved to Grove St. Mr. Huse, of Haverhill, who purchased the Cleaveland place, has removed the old windows with their diminutive panes of glass. Bailey, Saunders & Co. have enlarged their factory by the addition of the old Centre School house. William P. Galloup has purchased the Waterhouse machine and blacksmith shop and is finishing it up for his bottoming business, etc.

Salem Gazette, Nov. 16, 1869.

Attempt to break into Union Hall. Man from out of town named Harvey. Taken to Rowley and Trial Justice Todd sentenced him to 3 months. Old barn of Ezra Batchelder blown down. Samuel S. Wakeham fell from a ladder at Benj. Pools. Badly broken arm. Was sent to Salem.

Salem Gazette, Nov. 26, 1869.

AN INSTALLATION IN TOPSFIELD.

Wednesday was quite an eventful day in Topsfield, it having been set apart for the installation of Rev. E. P. Tenney as pastor of the Congregational church and society in that town. In ancient times a New England ordination was an event of no common magnitude, and it was signalized as a sort of holiday not second in importance to any which have been recognized and observed by later generations. Though now of such comparatively common occurrence as to have lost much of the original significance to the minds of the general public, in Topsfield an installation or ordination is nevertheless a thing of rare occurrence, this having been the only one for a period of more than a quarter of a century. As a matter of course so

rare an event was attended with more than usual *eclat*; and though the daily business of the towns-people proceeded as on ordinary days, the active appearance of the yard of the village stabler, well stored with vehicles of various descriptions, and the representation of best Sunday suits on the way to or from the meeting house,—were quite enough to assure even a passing stranger that something of special interest was going on in town. And then, at the close of the council, the promptness with which the singers took possession of the vacant church for rehearsal, —walking thither with hasty steps and with green covered books under their arms containing music of a stirring and lively character quite out of the ordinary line of singing to which the people listen for fifty-two Sundays in the year,—left the impression upon the disinterested observer that this arm of the devotional service was not unmindful of its reputation or of the public expectations in an event of uncommon magnitude.

The Orthodox Congregational church in Topsfield was formed more than two hundred years ago, (Nov., 1663,) though there was preaching in the place twenty years previous to that. The first pastor was Rev. Thomas Gilbert, a Scotchman; the sixth, Rev. Asahel Huntington, father of our present clerk of courts; and the last, Rev. Anson McLoud, the quarter century of whose settlement was celebrated some three years since. Mr. McLoud still resides in Topsfield, a respected citizen of the town, and one whose general abilities as a sermonizer, faithful devotion as a minister, and good standing as an upright man, find general recognition in the village and elsewhere. He was present at the exercises of the day and was a member of the installation council.

The Council convened at half past nine in the forenoon, and remained in session two hours. It was presided over by Rev. John Pike, D. D., of Rowley, as moderator, and Rev. S. F. French of Hamilton as scribe. Thirteen churches were represented by ministers and laymen. The proceedings were of the usual character at these examinations, and the standing of the candidate upon the various details of the faith were pronounced satisfactory by a unanimous

vote. The records presented showed general unanimity in the action of the church and parish in extending the call, and the letters of the candidate showed his satisfactory graduation at the Bangor Theological Seminary, and his regular ordination as an evangelist. As a mark of good neighborhood, between the Topsfield churches, Rev. S. F. Chase, of the Methodist Church, was selected as a member of the council, though he took no further active part in the examination than to put in a question in reference to the necessity of sinning, in that part relating to the general subject of "sanctification."

Two o'clock in the afternoon was the time assigned for the installation services, and, long before that hour, the people began to flock to the church, the ladies, as usual in the greatest numbers. The exercises began with the reading of the minutes of the council, by Rev. Mr. French, its scribe. This was followed by the voluntary, "Glory to God," a stirring anthem of praise. A brief introductory prayer by Rev. Mr. Currier of Lynn, followed, after which Rev. S. F. Chase, of the Methodist church, read selections from the 60th and 61st chapters of the prophecy of Isaiah. Then the choir chanted the following original hymn, written by Mrs. Peabody:

We meet to-day, at this loved shrine,
 To consecrate, O Lord, anew,
 Thy servant to his work divine
 With priestly rites and honors due.
 Of what avail the Sabbath bell,—
 The sacred song,—the organ peal,—
 Without the preacher's voice to tell
 Of God, and what His laws reveal.

Here, long, our faltering steps to aid
 And guide, the light of truth has shone,
 And offerings on this altar laid,
 Been owned, we trust, at Heaven's High
 Throne.

Here may the gospel still be given,—
 The call of its mercy be heard.
 That saints be made more meet for Heaven,
 And sinners be won by the word.

Here learning, O Lord, our duty,
 Here seeking Thy glory divine,
 May this valley in its beauty,
 And the strength of these hills be Thine.

And thus may the precious seed sown
 In the future spring up with the past;
 And from each rich harvest be grown,
 To be garnered in Heaven at last.

The sermon was preached by Prof. J. S. Sewall of Bowdoin College, Brunswick, formerly of Wenham. From the text, (John xviii, 36,) "My Kingdom is not of this world," he sought to unfold the nature of the spiritual kingdom, as contrasted with a temporal.

The sermon was followed by the installing prayer by Rev. John Pike, D. D., of Rowley, and the singing of the anthem "Mighty Jehovah," by the choir, whose performances were, throughout, of an excellent character.

The charge to the pastor, which followed, was by Rev. J. D. Emerson, of Biddeford, Maine, who, in alluding to his position as a former instructor of the new minister in his academic studies, quoted the words of David, "I have more understanding than all my teachers," to illustrate what he was free to admit portrayed their present relations in this regard.

The right hand of fellowship which followed was by Rev. C. B. Rice of Danvers Centre, and the performance was characterized by pleasantness and familiarity of style as well as by a commendable brevity that would, considering the short afternoons of this season, have added increased merit to some of the other performances.

After the hymn,—

"Father of mercies! condescend
 To hear our fervent prayer,
 While this, our brother, we commend
 To Thy paternal care."

the address to the church and society was delivered by Rev. Thomas Morong of Ipswich, who set forth, with plainness of speech, what he conceived to be the duties

of a church to its pastor. It is said, he began, that names are sometimes things. Some view the pastoral relations as a co-partnership, and he proceeded to show the cold nature of this view, particularly that aspect of it where it was considered that there was a way of getting rid of the minister if he happened to be guilty of the unpardonable sin of growing old. Regard your minister, he said, and take him by the hand as a brother and not as one who is to make friends of all the mothers by pleasing the children. If you regard him as a brother you will think well of his intentions and help him in his infirmities; you will not cast him off in his old age.

[Several significant glances were here observed to be cast from one to another in the congregation, but whether from any of the members who thought it a good hit upon somebody else, or from those disinterested but eager observers who were anxious to discover whether any of the surrounding faces accepted the application from anything in the past, was not quite clear to a stranger's apprehension.]

The concluding prayer was then made by Rev. Mr. Thurston of Newbury, the congregation united in the doxology, "Praise Him from whom all blessings flow," and a benediction was pronounced by the pastor; and this concluded the exercises.

Rev. Mr. Tenney enters upon his ministry under auspicious circumstances. Called with substantial unanimity, and bringing a good record as to religious character and personal standing, there would seem to be no good reason why this Topsfield church should not exert a controlling influence in leading the inhabitants to the practice of good morals and the attainment of a high spiritual life. It was a pleasant mark of the personal regard in which the new minister is held, that some twenty or thirty of his Manchester friends took the trouble to render their favorable testimony by being present; and these, with the other strangers, were hospitably entertained by the people of the parish. Another noticeable fact connected with the installation exercises was the presence of three neighboring ministers who began within a few years of each

other, whose quarter century anniversaries have been observed within a few years, and each of whom is now retired from regular active service. We allude to Rev. Dr. Pike late of the Rowley church, Rev. Mr. Coggin late of the Boxford church, and Rev. Mr. McLoud late of this Topsfield church.

Salem Gazette, Dec. 8, 1869.

Our oldest people do not remember of ever having so mild a winter as the present. Every week since January came in has had days favorable for the farmers to plough, dig rocks, and do many other kinds of work that is done in April. Some are preparing ground for sowing onions and oats. While this weather is favorable for the poor, who buy fuel, it is unfavorable for business, such as requires sledding to move wood and timber. All of the sawmill yards are bare of logs, and the saw mills are not running for the want of logs that have to be drawn on sleds.

Shoe business is reviving, all of our manufactories are in full operation, and as this branch of trade affords the means of support for a large portion of the population, there is no cause for suffering.

We were visited a few days since by a former citizen of Salem, but now a resident of Salt Lake City. I refer to Mr. Felt. The object of his mission here was to visit the house which was the birthplace of the noted Jo. Smith, of whom so much is said and written, and who has done so much to "set the world on fire," with his deluded brain. Mr. Felt was much interested in his visit, and the sight of the old house filled him with awe and reverence. He got permission to make a general survey of the interior of the old house but before entering was careful to "shake off the gentile mud from his feet." It was remarked to Mr. Felt that the dilapidation of the house was prophetic of the principles of the mormon faith; but he did not see it in that light. Whether he put a brick in his hat as a memento to carry home I did not learn; as he is a man of reminiscence, the presumption is that he did. I was much pleased with Mr. Felt who is a gentleman of a gen-

ial disposition, and bearing, that commends him to a stranger at first sight; and it was a pleasure to make his acquaintance as well as to point to him the object of his pilgrimage. I have no doubt he will carry home with him pleasant remembrances if not profitable statistics, when he reports to his superior, Brigham Young, of whom he spoke most affectionately.

It is a singular fact that the house that was built and occupied by the ancestors of Mr. Geo. Peabody—a man to whom the civilized world is indebted for his acts of charity and usefulness—whose name is spoken by so many as the benefactor of his race,—I say it is singular that the houses of the Smiths and Peabodies should be in the same neighborhood—not over a hundred rods apart, where the inmates, standing in their own door, could hold conversation; and from those houses two men should spring into life so unlike and yet so noted; but so it is, and those houses are both pointed out to strangers as objects of interest. When this fact was communicated to Mr. Felt, he seemed pleased to learn the fact, but the mead of praise was conferred to the Smiths rather than the Peabodies.

Salem Gazette, Feb. 2, 1870.

It was predicted many years since, by a good old lady, that at some future day Topsfield would be a *seaport*; and that prophecy has grown into a proverb by the present generation. Although the prophecy is not yet fulfilled, "as coming events casts their shadows before," it would be hazardous to ignore the old lady's mental vision, and say the thing cannot be, when comparing the past with the present condition of the town. At that early day, Topsfield was sparsely populated, a few farm houses dotting it as chance might dictate. As the pursuits of the people were agricultural there were no more workshops or places of business than the immediate wants of the people demanded. But in later years the hand of improvement has been busy, and thrift and success mark the general features of the town. We have our fine river, and "long wharf," of which everybody has heard, several large

and elegant dwelling houses and manufactories which give employment to hundreds of men and women, our churches and schoolhouses all new with modern improvements. We have also a Railroad over which pass ten or twelve trains of cars daily to and from Boston. A telegraph wire which connects us in communication with all parts of the country—we have the morning and evening city papers—so that if this is not a *seaport* it is brought very near one.

But it was not this that I had in mind when I began this communication. It was to say that at no distant day Topsfield will have a newspaper, edited and published under the management of S. A. Merriam, A. B., a graduate from Hanover College. His name and known ability are all that need be known to secure success, both in its literary and pecuniary enterprise. Its editorial columns I have no doubt, will take a high rank among the publications of the present day, and not suffer by comparison. While it is intended to make it a paper mostly in the interest of its local readers, it will find its way in remote distances. Its columns will be open for correspondents, who are invited to contribute, touching on all matters of religious, moral, and political subjects. On which side of political questions it will be found, I have not learned, but knowing Mr. Merriam to be a republican of the radical stripe have no doubt on the question, and he, being a personal friend of General Butler, will doubtless advocate his re-election to the next Congress. And should the paper survive his nomination by the next national convention for the presidency, it will be a strong supporter. But the chief object of Mr. Merriam in the inauguration of this paper enterprise is in the interest of the ladies' society in this town, who are purposing to hold a fair in the Union Hall, to continue as many days as will be required to dispose of their articles for sale; and as Mr. Merriam will issue in his first number about two thousand papers, it will be found a first rate paper in which to advertise, as its increase in numbers will be proportioned to the demand. A very large amount of money has already been received for advertisements from Boston and Salem, by merchants who know the advantage of advertising. Busi-

ness cards are constantly being received for insertion. The Mercury need not fear that it has a rival in this newspaper of ours. The hundred or two subscribing families which it has in this town have been so long accustomed to its weekly visits, that they will not dispense with it. I understand that Mr. Merriam's terms for advertising and inserting cards are on a sliding scale, running from two dollars up to twenty.

I learn that Mr. Merriam's first issue will be on the 17th inst., the day on which the ladies' festival commences, and continue to its close. As I hear that they have a very large stock to dispose of as well as a very elaborate "bill of fare," and programme of interesting exercises, the paper will report progress from day to day to its close. As the object of this enterprise is to shingle and paint the meeting house, all feel an interest in the success it is hoped it may meet.

I learn that our former pastor, Rev. Mr. McCloud, has received an invitation to the pastorate over a church in Madison, N. Y. with a very liberal salary, and that he has it in contemplation to accept the call, and that he wishes to dispose of his very fine and beautifully situated estate here. Mr. McCloud will leave behind him many good wishes for his future happiness and success in his new relations. His successor, Rev. Mr. Tenney, meets with general favor among this people.

Salem Gazette, Mar. 15, 1870.

The Sanderson place was discovered to be on fire about 9 o'clock, A. M. on Monday, and search being made, it was ascertained to be confined to a clothes-press in the tenement occupied by Mr. J. Wescott, whose family lost all of their best clothing. The whole loss was probably about \$150.

A horse, belonging to Mr. Wm. Huse, was found in his stable on Monday night with his leg broken. It was found necessary to kill the animal, which was valued at \$250.—*Press.*

Salem Gazette, Mar. 18, 1870.

Fair of the Congregational church held 17th and 18th. First evening a snow storm; tableaux, Haverhill Band, etc. A paper "The Spirit of the Fair" realized \$455.00.

Second evening—two plays. Total of over \$700.00 realized, to be used to beautify and repair the church.

Salem Gazette, Apr. 19, 1870.

We have been favored with an opportunity to examine a list of the persons who died in Topsfield from the year 1727 to 1791. This list was kept by Mr. John Hood, grandfather of Mr. Richard Hood, who at present possesses the list, which is kept in a common Ledger Alphabet. The whole number who died in that period was 559, exclusive of children, who do not appear to be recorded. The names are all such as still prevail in Topsfield.

Mr. Richard Hood also exhibits to us a copy of "Philo's Essex Almanack, for the year of our Lord Christ, 1770, calculated for the meridian of Salem, in New England,—containing Spring Tides, Judgment of the Weather, Feasts and Fasts of the Church in England, Courts in Massachusetts Bay, New Hampshire, Connecticut, and Rhode Island, Time of High Water at Salem, Public Roads with the best Stages or Houses to put up at," &c. This was published by Mr. Samuel Hall, founder of the Essex Gazette.

Mr. Hood also shows to us "A General Return of the men that was killed, wounded and missing in the attack of the French, near Ticonderoga on the 6th, 7th and 8th of July, 1758. This record was kept by the Mr. John Hood, named in the paragraph above, who was engaged in the "Old French war," and who captured a musket during the campaign, which did good service for him then, and afterwards to his son Mr. John Hood in the war of the Revolution. It is now in the possession of Mr. Richard Hood, and with its old fashioned flint lock, is capable of still further service.

Salem Gazette, July 29, 1870.

Drowned.—Mr. George Ralph, a native of Canada East, who has resided for some months past at Danvers, was drowned on Sunday last, while bathing in the Ipswich river in Topsfield. Ralph was a young man of good character, twenty one years of age, six feet four inches in height and finely developed, but unable to swim. He leaves a brother at Danvers. Coroner Hood of Danvers, was called but did not deem an inquest necessary.

Salem Gazette, Aug. 2, 1870.

Desirable Estate in Topsfield.

Will be sold at public auction, on the premises, on TUESDAY, Sept. 6, at 4½ o'clock, P. M., on the premises, in Topsfield.

The Cottage House built by Isaac M. Small, about a dozen years ago, (known as High Rock Cottage,) with barn, one half of another house, and about two acres of land. The cottage is pleasantly situated upon elevated ground and contains nine rooms. The barn is two stories and a half high, has two stalls for horses, with accommodations for a cow, carriages, and a spacious hay loft. The land contains Baldwin apple trees, and is available for general cultivation.

This situation is airy and commanding, in near proximity to churches, schools, post-office, and railroad depot. With moderate outlay, it might be made one of the most desirable situations in the town.

For particulars, enquire of J. H. HANSON, Salem, (executor of the estate of the late Joseph Adams, to which the property now belongs,) or of the auctioneer, S. D. HOOD, Topsfield. *Salem Gazette, Aug. 26, 1870.*

Rev. E. P. Tenney has asked a dismissal from the Congregational church in this town on account of ill health. This announcement was received with surprise and regret. *Salem Gazette, Sept. 6, 1870.*

Rev. E. P. Tenney preached his last sermon in Topsfield last Sunday. He goes to Braintree. *Salem Gazette, Sept. 30, 1870.*

During the past year B. P. Adams has very generously opened up an avenue from Main St. to the Academy, and has removed the building formerly standing at the front of the avenue and is fitting it up as a tenement house. Webster Perkins has built a dwelling house on West St. Andrew Gould is making additions to his buildings on Main St. Wm. E. Kimball has built a tenement house on Grove St. and Charles Winslow a cottage on the same street. Albert Webster is making extensive improvements. Thomas W. Pierce, Esq. has built a dwelling house on his farm. The Methodist and Congregational church are making extensive repairs.

The ladies threaten to beautify the village with a town clock. No bell now rings at either 12 or 1 o'clock.

Salem Gazette, Dec. 5, 1870.

A barn belonging to Abel Jones burned Saturday night, 10th inst. with hay, 2 heifers, 1 swine, and 80 fowls. No one had been about the barn since 5 o'clock. The fire occurred between 9 and 10. The only fire in town for several years.

Salem Gazette, Dec. 20, 1870.

A correspondent of the Beverly Citizen says that while visiting a neighboring town (probably Topsfield) a few days ago, the clerk very kindly allow him to make a copy of the following schedule of taxable property returned to the Selectmen, at their request, by author; which paper is on file in the clerk's office:—

"I have two polls, the one is poor,
I have two cows and want three more,
I have no horse, but fifteen sheep,
No more than these this year I keep.

Steer's that's two years old, one pair,
Two calves I have all over hair;
Three heifers two years old I own,
One heifer's calf that's poorly grown.

My land is acres eighty-two,
Which sarch the records you'll find 'tis true;
And this is all I have in store,
I'll thank you if you'll tax no more."

"To the Selectmen of——. Asal Smith, March, 1789."

This Mr. Smith was the grandfather of "Mormon Joe.," the founder of the Mormon faith, who was born a short time after the above date in Vermont.

Salem Gazette, Jan. 20, 1871.

For Sale.

Benjamin A. Robinson, of Topsfield offers for sale his farm, consisting of 80 acres, suitably divided into tillage, pasture and woodland; good buildings, good water, near

school and grist mill, and is located on Ipswich river, about two miles from church and depot. Apply to
B. A. ROBINSON.

Here in Topsfield, with the opening of Spring, we usually have changes of property and business, by sale and otherwise, and the changes have already commenced and bid fare to be as numerous as in years gone by. Mr. Job Frame has taken the restorator recently vacated by the late Tho's W. Perley. Mr. Richard Ward has purchased the estates of Mr. W. H. Munday, and will carry on the butchering business there. Mr. Cha's H. Lake is driving on the finishing up of his new house, in anticipation of a large business in the line of Summer boarders. Mr. Wm. E. Kimball has a new house ready for a purchaser. Several farms are advertised for sale or to let.

We understand that Mr. Moses Richardson is about to sell out his business, stock, tools and stand, to Messrs. David Casey and B. A. Orne, who are both young and energetic men, and will no doubt do a much larger business than Mr. R. has. He being rather aged and infirm, and having amassed quite a little fortune, was desirous to sell to some young men rather than to be perplexed with the cares of an active business during the remainder of his days.

Rev. E. P. Tenney, will give a lecture in the Congregational Church, in Topsfield, on Monday evening, the 13th of March. A contribution will be taken up for the Woman's Missionary Society.

The members of the M. E. S., in Topsfield, will hold a grand levee and promenade concert in Union Hall on Wednesday evening, March 8th. Refreshments for sale, and a hot supper for all who desire it. An excellent band of music will be in attendance, and a good opportunity is offered to our friends to enjoy themselves, as no pains will be spared to make this social an enjoyable occasion. Should the weather be stormy on the 8th, the levee will be given on the first fair evening.

Salem Gazette, Mar. 3, 1871.

We regret to have been made the instrument of a malicious hoax, in the last Mercury, where a statement was

made that "Mr. Moses Richardson was about to sell out his business, stock, tools, &c." to several respectable young men, whose names were mentioned. The statement was, we are assured, false, and made with the intent to injure; and if so the author of the story deserves the reprobation which belongs to every falsifier.

Our town has this day, March 7th, voted to establish a High School. We shall now have the establishment of a school of a higher grade than we have ever had before; in which book-keeping, surveying, goemetry, algebra, general history, rhetoric, logic, the higher branches in English, and the Latin and Greek languages, will be taught. One great purpose of this school will be to give a thorough business education to lads and young men, who are not to enter college, and a thorough preparation to those who are to do so; and also to give such exact and systematic instruction to young ladies as shall prepare them to become teachers, or to fill with the highest usefulness any of the various other situations in life, peculiar to their sex, to which they may be called.

Both duty and sound policy required that we should provide just such a school as we have voted to establish; for here is the place where, at the public expense, the children and youth of suitable age and qualifications, the poor and the rich, may enjoy advantages for study that cannot be obtained in our town at the present time. There are now a good number of young people in this town, of both sexes, who are desirous of making further improvement in their studies than they ordinarily have an opportunity to do in our common schools. This school will, at all times, be open to large scholars, and scholars of advanced standing in all parts of the town. The standard required for admission will be made to vary somewhat to the number of applications for admission at a time. In this manner the school will always be kept nearly or quite full. This school, no doubt, will become a lasting honor to the town, and of incalculable benefit to the rising generation. Our town has now generously provided a school, where any aspiring child can come and receive the treasures of knowledge and virtue, without money and without

price; and here in this school, the poorest boy of our town can see opened before him a way to the highest walks of usefulness and fame.

Salem Gazette, Mar. 10, 1871.

At the annual town meeting in Topsfield, the following named officers were chosen:—

Moderator—Samuel Todd.

Town Clerk—J. P. Towne,

Selectmen—Andrew Gould, J. W. Bachelder, David Clarke.

Assessors—Andrew Gould, M. B. Perkins, S. D. Hood.

Overseers of the Poor—J. C. P. Floyd, Dudley Bradstreet, E. P. Peabody.

Town Treasurer—J. P. Gould.

Collector of taxes—D. Bradstreet.

Constables—H. W. Lake, David Davis, Richard Ward.

School Committee—J. W. Bachelder, Samuel Todd, for 3 years; Dudley Bradstreet, for 2 years.

Amount raised to defray town expenses \$5,500; amount appropriated for schools, \$1,500; For repairing roads \$1,000 to be paid in labor.

Conference will hold its yearly session in Boston within a week or two, and it is hoped its decisions will not sever the connection existing between the Rev. Mr. Mears, and the Methodist Episcopal Society in this place. For once, we could wish the rules of Methodism suspended, that naught but death disturb such amicable relations.

Some steps have been taken to obtain as Pastor for the Congregational Church and society, the Rev. Mr. Fitz, recently of West Boylston. We understand he is a distant relative of Dr. Daniel Fitz, formerly of Ipswich.

The vote of the church was unanimous in favor of Mr. Fitz, even allowing the claims of Woman's Suffrage. We hope they may be so fortunate as to secure their man.

Several attempts have been made to gain a vote of the town for a new town house, but as yet they have proved unsuccessful. It is also contemplated to repair the alms-house, and erect a new barn upon the premises. With only two paupers,—as is the case at present,—we should

think it best to dispense with the farm altogether; especially, if it has incurred debt in the past, as the town's report indicates.

At the beginning of the town year there was in the treasury \$1,862.81. The Topsfield loan amounts to \$15,500. Notes held against town Mch. 1, 1871, \$4,700. The indebtedness of the town, is \$459.08 in excess of last year.

The expenditures the past year were for schools, \$1,916.23; interest, 1,081.25; notes paid, \$900; town officers, 460.10; for the poor, 858.84; dry bridge, 126.63; burying ground, 134.51; roads and bridges, 210.48; abatement of taxes, 30.48; pathing snow, 969.72; Lovewell and Pinkham case, 1,374.84; State aid, 852; Miscellaneous, 1987.86.

The committee on the lawsuit, Messrs. M. B. Perkins, Samuel Todd, and Dudley Bradstreet, lay before the citizens their report on the lawsuit by which Messrs. Lovewell and Pinkham recovered damages for the upsetting of a team, which it seems evident ought not to have been awarded. But the fact is juries seem to think that, in all these cases, the verdicts should be against towns without much regard to the merits of the cases.

The second and third of the series of entertainments inaugurated on at the first of the season, will be given on the evenings of Thursday and Friday, of this week, at Union Hall.

Salem Gazette, Mar. 24, 1871.

In Topsfield, June 16, after a long and severe sickness which she bore with great patience and christian resignation, Mary H. Orne, wife of E. P. Balch, aged 44 years.

A stock of farming tools is advertised to be sold, at the residence of S. Merriam, on Thursday of this week.

The Congregational Church and Society in Topsfield have extended a call to the Rev. J. F. Fitts, late of West Boylston, to become their pastor.

Salem Gazette, Apr. 6, 1871.

Rev. E. P. Tenney was the Superintendent of Schools during the spring term of 1870, and in his report he says

he thought what was more needed than anything else in regard to the schools was "more thoroughness in instruction, to be persisted in through many terms before the schools could be said to be in good condition." The only way to eradicate this result of a lack of thorough instruction "is to uniformly employ teachers who are thoroughly acquainted with the best methods of teaching, and retaining the services of suitable teachers when once found." The committee say the schools during the year, have been in a fair degree profitable to those who have attended. In common with most of the reports, the lack of individual interest in the schools is complained of, while the school houses are in as good condition as those of any other town with no larger number of scholars. The number of children in town May 1, 1870, between the ages of five and fifteen years, was 237. Number attending during the spring term, 210; fall term, 171; winter term, 234. There was expended in support of schools during the year, \$1,732.10.

Salem Gazette, Apr. 14, 1871.

At the Town meeting in Topsfield, May 26, 1871, the 2d article of warrant was,—

"To see what action the town will take in relation to a fence in the Academy Avenue erected by Benjamin P. Adams, and pass any vote or votes in relation to the subject," and it was voted, (*one hundred fourteen* to sixteen) "That we consider that Mr. Adams has built the fence on *his own land*."

"Moved, That the thanks of the Town be voted to Benjamin P. Adams, Esq., for the improving and beautifying the avenue leading to the academy building, and turning a spot of land into a garden of flowers, which once produced only a deadly malaria; for improving and adorning a spot which was formerly unsightly to behold, into a pleasant garden, which is now alike pleasing to the eye and conducive to the health and morals of the community; also for erecting a barrier upon the bridge, to protect the school children from harm and accident in their going to and from school. Also moved, that a copy of this

vote be presented to Mr. Adams as a token of the appreciation in which the town holds Mr. Adams as a good citizen and a lover of public improvements." And this, on being acted on by the meeting was declared voted.

Voted, That the above motion and vote thereon, be sent to the office of the Essex County Mercury for publication.

The facts in the case, which called out the above expression of the voters of the Town are substantially these:—About a year ago B. P. Adams, Esq., bought at auction, a certain strip of land with the buildings thereon, adjoining his home estate, through which land an avenue had been built, and over which avenue the town holds a "right of way" to the school ground in the rear. By the side of the avenue and between it and Mr. Adam's former fence was a sort of slough, ditch, or gutter, which was used as a receptacle for all sorts of old rubbish,—tin pots, pans, kettles, pails, stove pipe, shoes, boots, broken ware, junk bottles, dead cats and dogs, and every thing that is offensive to the eye or sense of smelling. To the neat and tasty family of Mr. A., as well as to a very large majority of our citizens this slough was looked upon as a nuisance, and when it was purchased by him our hopes rose high that the nuisance would speedily be abated; and we were not to be disappointed. First he removed the building to the rear, and fitted it up into a neat and comfortable dwelling house; then filled the ditch and graded it finely with gravel at a very great expense; then built a new fence around the lot, with the exception of the avenue which he put in perfect order, leaving it wide enough for three teams abreast, and making it a perfect Eden compared with what it had been.

The change in the looks of the property is so great, that certain uneasy persons induced our Selectmen to call a town meeting as above stated, claiming, (one of them at least,) that the town right of way was all over the lot, and that Mr. Adams must move his fence and give up his improvements. After discussing and fully ventilating the subject for an hour or two, and making it clear that the town had no claim whatever to the land, save as a

right of way over the avenue, the question was called and the votes taken with the above result.

Salem Gazette, May, 26, 1871.

THE INSTALLATION OF REV. MR. FITTS AS PASTOR OF
THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, WITH A FEW STRAY
THOUGHTS MIXED IN.

Topsfield is now putting on its best appearance, and no place looks more attractive for summer boarding, or, in fact, is so. And, speaking of boarding, Mr. C. H. Lake is fitting up his house that sits so conspicuously upon the hill, for the accommodation of boarders, who certainly will find here a sightly place and get a full supply of the freshest and best breezes that blow. Mr. Herrick, I observe, has put up a new building next to his establishment, for the better accommodation of his workmen, for, now-a-days, most of the work of shoe manufactories is done upon the spot and not scattered around through the country as it used to be. And there is the improvement of Mr. Adams, which gives a neat and trig look to the neighborhood and which had the good fortune to receive a compliment from the inhabitants, in town meeting assembled.

But I did not sit down to tell of the improvements which may have taken place in town, but simply to give some little account of the installation of the Rev. James H. Fitts, lately of West Boylston, as pastor of the Congregational church, which took place to-day. A brighter day could not have been found in the whole year, and the recent rains caused the foliage, the hills, and the village green, to look fresh and verdant. Such a day would be a cheering accompaniment to a marriage ceremony in the eyes of whimsical people who think the weather symbolizes the kind of life that will be led by the twain made one; and if the rule applies to unions which are solemnized between ministers and congregations, the Topsfield church may be thankful for the good fortune which attended it in this regard.

It is quite unnecessary to say that the interior of the meeting-house put on its most attractive garb. Having been recently fitted up, it would have looked neatly enough

in any event; but the bouquets and other adornments that surrounded pulpit and singing-seats gave a cheering appearance to things, besides bearing renewed testimony to the good taste of the ladies, without whose presence, both as ornamental designers and as hearers, church ordinations would certainly lose much of their spirit.

The meeting of the Council was at ten o'clock, and, shortly after that hour, it was called to order by Rev. C. R. Palmer of Salem, and was organized by the choice of Rev. Dr. Pike of Rowley as Moderator, and Rev. Wilson Wood, of Wenham, as Scribe. First the various papers in the case were called for, from which it appeared that the preliminary arrangements between the minister and the society were all satisfactory, and then the examination of the candidate was proceeded with, which lasted till twelve o'clock. I have not attended many preliminary councils of this nature, but, from the few that have come within my observation, I rather wonder that they do not attract a larger share of that attendance which is so ready to exhibit itself in the afternoon. Quite likely, however, the women, for the most part, are superintending the dinners for the brethren from abroad, while the men—well, the men are not, as a rule, so much given to an interest in religious things as they ought to be, and, for the most part, content themselves with asking afterwards of some one who was present, "How did he get along?" "Did he answer up promptly?" or, (especially if the questioner is one of a general heretical or doubting turn,) "Did he accept that abominable doctrine of infant damnation?" I am not speaking now with reference to the particular council which examined Mr. Fitts, but of such councils in general as I have seen, with the off hand comments that the laymen indulge in after it gets through, and which the ministers probably hear less about. I remember once where a candidate fresh from Andover was subjected to a cross fire of two mortal hours from heads old and able. "I tell you," said an admiring spectator, "Didn't he stand that well?—these fellows, you see, right from Andover, are well booked up, and its pretty hard to trip 'em up; besides, he's smart, there's no mistake about

that," the commentator concluding his observations by a sudden transition from appreciative to philosophical emotions. "But there, some of that talk was a good deal beyond my depth—could *you* take it all in?" the remark being suggested by a lengthy devotion to the interesting questions (particularly regarding children,) growing out of the doctrine of the introduction of sin into the world by the specific act recorded of Adam, thereby depraving the nature, which was originally created pure, and making of men a race of sinners to be eternally lost unless regenerated and converted to an acceptance of Jesus Christ as the one great sacrifice for sin.

Some queer observer of the ways of men once suggested that if all the varieties of individual thought indulged in by a congregation during the preaching of an ordinary sermon could be photographed and laid open to public gaze, it would make an interesting sight; and I rather guess it would. But I am not sure that it would be more interesting than the results of a similar process brought to bear upon those who witness the proceedings of an examining council. The ministers see an importance of the gravest character in keeping the foundation of their system carefully guarded against the undermining influence of little doubts, which might, in time, imperil the safety of the structure which both they and the church members,—which include many good "mothers of Israel," whose faces, as they gaze with satisfaction upon the doings, seem like a perpetual benediction, and whose steadfastness in the faith both convert and sinner look upon with emotions only of the highest respect,—deem vitally essential to the salvation of men. The rest look on with a more indifferent interest. If the audience includes a few doubters to whom these subjects are not altogether new or disregarded in their thoughts, they are apt to think that a candidate who may be inclined to wander upon the outskirts of heresy, is enticed back by an adroit use of what the lawyers would term a leading question, such as a legal court would rule out; or perhaps entertain a secret wish that they could put in a few questions of their own when they think that bottom has not been touched by

the way in which a particular subject has been left. Most of the mere spectators, however, those who accept the tenets of their faith in what seems to be a conventional sort of way without apparently realizing and accepting it in their souls, (in the way, for instance, that Rev. Mr. Tenney seemed to realize in his earnest exhortation to the people in the afternoon,) apparently regard the examination chiefly as a gauge to the wits or mental activity of the candidate; hence, if he passes through it without a hitch, they are satisfied, not, apparently, because they were solicitous about the points discussed, but because they are going to have a minister who has proved that he is "as ready a man as any of them."

The examination of Mr. Fitts, (to come back from councils in general which are at the bottom of the thoughts which have caused my pencil to wander from the plain report I sat down to write,) was not carried to excruciating minuteness upon questions commonly looked upon as "rather fine," and there is no reason why it should not have been deemed satisfactory to the body before which it was conducted, as well as to the church founded upon the same system of faith. He first expressed his views upon natural religion, which covered the general arguments founding a belief in the existence of an Overruling Power upon observations in nature and the instinctive reasonings in men, which point to such a power as having a moral nature similar to that found in man. Then he came to the evidences which he found in the Scriptures; the special miraculous inspiration of the book; the revelation of the three distinctions united in the Godhead, etc., embodying the familiar doctrines of the trinity. His chief evidence of this peculiarity of the Bible above other books was in the inherent character of the writings, and in reply to the suggestion that some claim that it should be placed upon the same level with other books, said that it rested upon those who held this opinion to show the weight of evidence to be upon their side. And so, too, without directly admitting that the Bible contained errors, he said he did not feel bound to assert that it is correct upon every point, for instance, which comes within the sphere

of science: because in no event could this invalidate the authority of the book as the revelation of a moral system, which was all it professed to be. Then came the statement that man was originally created pure, but that we became a race of sinners by the act of Adam in partaking of the forbidden fruit, and are to be saved only by accepting Christ as the sacrifice. He found no evidence that those, for instance, who never heard of Christ, would escape the annihilation of the unregenerate and unconverted, but his views seemed to favor the idea that children who died before arriving at the condition of free moral agency would or might be saved. During this part of the examination some questions were asked regarding the theory that man is a product of successive stages of development from an inferior order of life—the questioner having in mind, evidently, the Darwinian theory by which we may enjoy the flattering contemplation that we are removed only one period from the family of apes and baboons. Dr. Pike had the closing words on this topic, which were, substantially, commenting upon the candidate's answers, "In other words you find enough in the observations of life as you find it about you to humble man, without trying to trace him to such a low origin." This, though uttered with all the appearance of gravity, was evidently a product of the vein of humor which makes Dr. P. an interesting and companionable man, and so a quiet laugh went round, and Mr. Darwin's theories were not further molested. Mr. Fitt's allusion to his private religious experiences, both in his general and ministerial life, could not do otherwise than leave a very favorable impression of his personal character and the good influence he will be likely to exert as a practical Christian if he is met by the same spirit that he seems likely to show.

The installation services, which began at two in the afternoon, closed at four, which showed that the parts were judiciously arranged as to length. The singing by the regular choir, was good, and the services interesting throughout. There was a voluntary by the choir; introductory prayer by Rev. Mr. Marsh of Georgetown; reading of the Scriptures, by Rev. Mr. Gammell, of Boxford;

an original hymn; sermon by Rev. George N. Anthony, of Peabody; installing prayer, by Rev. Charles B. Rice of Danvers; charge to the pastor by Rev. Charles R. Palmer of Salem; right hand of fellowship by Rev. S. Franklin French of Hamilton; hymn; address to the church and society, by Rev. E. P. Tenney of Braintree; concluding prayer by Rev. Mr. Coggin of Boxford; doxology and benediction by the pastor.

The sermon by Rev. Mr. Anthony, was from the text, (II Chron. vi, 18,) "But will God in very deed dwell with men on earth? behold, heaven, and the heaven of heavens, cannot contain thee, how much less this house which I have built!"

But this account is spinning itself out to undue length. Suffice it to say that Rev. Mr. French's right hand of fellowship contained many good suggestions, while Mr. Tenney's charge to the people did not fall into the common rut of telling the people what men of average honesty ought to know, but was rather an exhortation to the Topsfield people to pray for and with this man, and to awake to the realizing sense of the brink upon which so many are hovering with apparently no sense of the danger which threatens the unrepentant.

The people generally seemed to be much interested in the doings, and especially commended the general brevity of the exercises, which, upon these occasions, are apt to extend to a tiresome length.

N. A. H.

Salem Gazette, June 23, 1871.

Mr. John Balch of Newburyport, while driving through Topsfield on Tuesday last, in attempting to arrange the head-stall on the horse, was thrown down by the horse springing suddenly forward, and fatally injured by the carriage passing over him. The circumstances were as follows:—

Mr. Balch with his wife were on a journey to Boston, over the Newburyport and Boston Turnpike, and when arriving at an oak grove, under the shade of which they stopped to rest themselves and horse, he took the bridle from his horse's head and gave him some oats. The horse, after eating the oats, commenced to eat grass, and as he

did so drew the carriage under a tree, which rubbed against a limb and frightened him, at which he started to run. Mr. Balch being out of the carriage, made an attempt to stop him, and was thrown and the carriage passed over him, breaking the spinal column of his neck. The horse continued his running, with Mrs. Balch in the carriage, for about a quarter of a mile, and as he was passing the house of Mr. Wm. Lock, who was standing at his door with Mr. Charles Boynton of Gloucester, saw the horse approaching them in full speed. Mr. Boynton got his carriage out of the road as soon as possible, to prevent a collision, and then with Mr. Lock sprang before the terrified horse. Mr. Lock threw up his hands to check the speed of the horse, and Mr. Boynton seized him by the head and succeeded in stopping him. The two men went immediately to the place of the accident, and found Mr. Balch in an unconscious state. They took him to the house of Mr. Lock, and Dr. Allen was immediately called, and pronounced the injury fatal. Consciousness was in a measure restored, and Mr. B. survived till eight in the evening. On Wednesday morning his remains were taken to Newburyport. Mrs. Balch attributes the saving of her life to Messrs. Lock and Boynton. Mr. Balch was the agent of one of the steam factories in Newburyport, and a man highly esteemed as a citizen.

Salem Gazette, July 14, 1871.

Quite a chapter of accidents occurred within a few days, in Topsfield. The most serious and threatening, was that which happened to Mr. Charles Floyd, the well known expressman. He went upon the roof of his house to paint the tin, and his feet slipping he fell to the ground a distance of nineteen feet. In falling he struck on the top of a hogshhead, which was fortunately covered in part by a board, which probably prevented the accident being fatal; as it was he was seriously hurt, and has hardly yet got well enough to resume business.—The next day, Mr. John Gould, 2d, (butcher) by a curious accident, got a wooden skewer stuck into his ankle so tightly that it was difficult to pull it out. On the day that Mr. Balch was killed by his horse, the fingers of Mr. Stephen Hammond

got badly cut in a splitting machine. All live in the near neighborhood of each other.

Salem Gazette, July 21, 1871.

During camp meeting week, which begins Aug. 22, Messrs. C. J. P. Floyd and J. W. Beal will run a line of barges between this town and Asbury Grove, leaving Topsfield at 8 A. M., and 12.30 P. M., and the Grove at 5 and 9.30 P. M. We hope the people will take care that the line is well patronized, for it will be found a convenience.

Salem Gazette, Aug. 4, 1871.

Lines on the death of Mrs. Conant who died in Topsfield, July 23, 1871, aged 36 yrs.

Come, see the mourning group around
The dying mother prest,
As now she takes her final leave,
Slow-sinking to her rest.

And that heart-broken Husband stands
With grief contracted brow,
And clasps those feeble, dying hands
That death is claiming now.

And aged parents too, bowed down
With grief, too sad to see,—
O Blessed Father, bid them trust
And look for help to Thee.

And sisters too, how can they part
From her they hold so dear?
Fond brothers mourn, with heavy heart,
They fain would keep her here.

O Father, sad the parting is,
When love, by death is riven,
But thou canst heal the broken hearts
If unto Thee they're given.

Then look dear Father from above,
These little children keep;
Guard them with thine all-powerful arm,
'Till in thine arms they sleep.

Danvers.

M. B. A.

Salem Gazette, Aug. 11, 1871.

Mrs. Lydia Perkins, who died in this town on Friday last, at the age of more than eighty-seven years, was married in the year 1812, and in 1813 removed to the residence which she occupied to the time of her death, having slept in the same bedroom fifty-eight years. Her husband still survives.

Salem Gazette, Aug. 18, 1871.

The 7 and 8 o'clock trains on the Boston and Maine road on Tuesday evening, were detained by an accident to the 5 1-4 train from Newburyport. Two passenger cars and the smoking car were thrown off the track at Topsfield by the breaking of a rail. Fortunately there was no person injured; and after the lapse of an hour and a half the road was put into condition, the cars placed on the track and the train in motion.

Salem Gazette, Sept. 1, 1871.

Administratrix Sale in Topsfield.

Will be sold at Public Auction, on Wednesday, 20th inst., at ten o'clock, A. M., at the residence of the late Mr. Henry Long, the following first class of stable stock, viz:

6 horses, all of which are in good working condition, and two of which are of superior quality; Carriages of new and fashionable style, some of which have been used but few months, consisting of three Top-buggies, new and in perfect order, two Beach Wagons, one shifting top beach wagon, nearly new, one side Spring Wagon with top, one open Buggy, one light Concord Pattern Wagon, (new) and several other carriages not enumerated: six Good Harnesses, nearly new; several harnesses and part of harnesses not enumerated; six Sleighs, nearly new, and all in perfect order; one pair traders runners, new; one pair long runners, new; 1 pung; stable furniture, consisting of buffalo robes, blankets, halters, whips, &c., &c. Also one good cow, lot of manure, &c., &c. Sale positive and without reserve.

S. D. HOOD, Auctioneer.

ELIZABETH G. LONG, Administratrix,

Topsfield, Sept. 12, 1871.

Salem Gazette, Sept. 8, 1871.

(To be continued.)

VITAL STATISTICS OF TOPSFIELD, MASS.

FOR THE YEAR 1917.

BIRTHS.

1917		
Jan.	20.	Marion Louise Pierce, dau. of Harlan and Maud (Fuller) Pierce.
Feb.	1.	Maria Grazia D'Augustino, dau. of Pasquale and Johanna (D'Amore) D'Augustino.
Mar.	11.	Peter Joseph Kilhouley, Jr., son of Peter J. and Sarah F. (McKeever) Kilhouley.
Apr.	10.	Annina Marione, dau. of Anthonie and Maria (Di Meo) Marione.
Apr.	23.	Raymond Curtis Merrill, son of Severance G. and Lillian L. (Curtis) Merrill.
May	11.	Lillian Edna Preston, dau. of William P. and Lillian E. (Hooper) Preston.
June	2.	Antonio Cotorá, son of Carmino and Savenia (Mosia) Cotorá.
July	1.	Morris Earle Lake, son of Benjamin B. and Helen M. (Brown) Lake.
July	6.	Antonio Ganzi, son of David and Gesnalda (Arpadessa) Ganzi.
July	16.	———, dau. of Charles S. and Josephine M. (Corey) Duckworth.
July	18.	Silia De Cotis, dau. of John and Carmela (Leone) De Cotis.
Aug.	10.	Filomena Paglia, dau. of Fedelev and Santina (Cocciardi) Paglia.
Aug.	20.	Harriett Anise Maynard, dau. of Charles A. and H. Gladys (Flanders) Maynard.
Sept.	1.	Robert Knight Peirce, son of Thomas W. and Gabrielle M. (Dexter) Peirce.
Sept.	2.	———, dau. of Bertrum M. and Annetta L. (Linduth) Roberts.
Dec.	2.	David Cameron Gerry, son of George A. and Helen E. (Andrews) Gerry.
Dec.	21.	Catherine Mercer, dau. of James and Mabel (Griffin) Mercer.
Dec.	24.	Frank Roberto, son of Alphonso B. and Grazia (Paglia) Roberto.

BORN IN SALEM

June	22.	George Everett Perkins, son of Henry C. and Evelyn E. (Merrill) Perkins.
Aug.	23.	James Franklin McGregor, son of James F. and Annie T. (McGott) McGregor.

MARRIAGES.

- 1917
- Apr. 30. Chester Livermore Greene (New York City), son of John and Harriet (Ide) Greene.
Ann Margaret Collins (Topsfield), dau. of Michael and Ellen (Leary) Collins. (Married in Danvers).
- Sept. 16. Joseph Francis Carnes (Danvers), son of Anthony and Mary (Carson) Carnes.
Ann Maria Collins (Topsfield), dau. of Richard and Margaret (McHugh) Collins. (Married in Danvers).
- Oct. 27. Thomas Pollock (Salem), son of David M. and Isabelle (Gordon) Pollock.
Sarah Gertrude Anderson (Topsfield), dau. of John and Ann (Durgin) Anderson. (Married in Danvers).
- Nov. 8. John J. Jackman (Topsfield), son of Charles V. and Mary (Underwood) Jackman.
Lena Mabel Walsh (Topsfield), dau. of William H. and Margaret (Cullinane) Walsh. (Married in Boxford).
- Dec. 10. E. Brooks Edwards (Topsfield), son of Benjamin P. and Mary E. (Pierce) Edwards.
Grace M. Needham (Littleton, Mass.), dau. of Osman and Inez (Drew) Needham. (Married in Littleton).

DEATHS.

- 1917
- Jan. 3. Sarah P., widow of Jacob A. Towne and dau. of John P. and Esther (Perkins) Peabody. Aged 87 yrs., 9 mos., 4 dys.
- Jan. 8. Lewis A. Chapman, son of Amos S. and Eliza A. (Perkins) Chapman. Aged 68 yrs., 5 mos., 15 dys.
- Jan. 24. William B. Clerk, son of George and Mary (Bermner) Clerk. Aged 63 yrs., 5 mos., 16 dys.
- Feb. 7. Lenora, widow of Samuel Lincoln, and dau. of George and Mary (Pike) Severance. Aged 91 yrs., 11 mos., 17 dys.
- Mar. 4. Hattie Hayden, widow of Lewis H. Harris, and dau. of Nelson and Mary (Stiles) Hayden. Aged 58 yrs., 3 mos., 3 dys.
- Mar. 28. Edwin Adams, son of Thomas J. and Livea (Stone) Adams. Aged 87 yrs., 8 mos.
- Apr. 20. Cora P., wife of Fred M. Williams and dau. of Cyrus A. and Eliza A. (Welch) Kneeland. Aged 49 yrs., 8 mos., 15 dys.
- Apr. 27. Martha Cummings, wife of Norman McLeod, and dau. of Alfred and Salome (Welch) Cummings. Aged 65 yrs., 28 dys.

May	1.	James W. Goldthwaite, son of Dennison W. and Adeline (Wiggins) Goldthwaite. Aged 77 yrs., 7 mos., 28 dys.
June	4.	Rebecca H. Cole, dau. of Isaiah and Sarah (Mayo) Cole. Aged 79 yrs., 7 mos., 28 dys.
July	4.	Grace M., wife of Wayland E. Burnham and dau. of Hiram and Mary (Murphy) Clay. Aged 23 yrs.
July	11.	Benjamin H. Woodsum, son of Rufus and Caroline (Clark) Woodsum. Aged 59 yrs., 9 mos., 7 dys.
July	12.	Mary Anderson, dau. of John W. and Nancy (Durgin) Anderson. Aged 46 yrs.
Sept.	23.	Josephine, widow of Austin Lake, and dau. of Albert and Hannah (Hayward) Perley. Aged 73 yrs., 8 mos., 26 dys.
Oct.	16.	William Edward Willett, son of (unknown). Aged 84 yrs.
Nov.	14.	Ann, widow of John Anderson, and dau. of John and Mary (Connors) Durgin. Aged 67 yrs.

Deaths in other places, Interment in Topsfield.

1916		
Dec.	24.	Fred Jewel Wolfe, died in Everett, Mass., age 3 dys.
1917		
Jan.	28.	Rodney Perkins, died in Boston, Mass., 8 yrs., 10 mos.
Feb.	20.	A. Adelaide Rea, died in Los Angeles, Cal., aged 67 yrs.
Mar.	31.	Viola L. Striley, died in Danvers, Mass., aged 24 yrs., 1 mo., 31 dys.
Apr.	7.	Victor R. Abbott, died in Peabody, Mass., aged ———.
Apr.	11.	Sarah F. Kulloch, died in Georgetown, aged 74 yrs.
Apr.	27.	Thomas P. Monday, died in Somerville, aged 52 yrs., 10 mos., 8 dys.
Aug.	2.	Mary R. H. Emerson, died in New York City, aged 62 yrs., 3 mos., 26 dys.
Aug.	12.	Joseph H. Lovett, died in West Ossipee, N. H., aged 73 yrs., 11 mos., 14 dys.
Dec.	7.	Sarah Ball Dinsmore, died in Lynn, Mass., aged 78 yrs., 5 mos., 14 dys.

CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS IN 1917.

1917.	
Feb. 8.	Garage at the Bradstreet-Proctor farm destroyed by fire.
Mar. 31.	War Preparedness meeting at the Town Hall. Committee on Public Safety formed and also a Branch of the Special Aid Society.
Apr. 3.	Hon. Arthur H. Wellman elected a member of the Massachusetts Constitutional Convention.
Apr. 5.	Company of Home Guards formed, commanded by Capt. Edward J. Prest.
Apr. 6.	Augustus Laskey enlisted in the Navy, the first man to go from Topsfield.
June 5.	Registration of men subject to military duty.
June 27.	Barn owned by Howard Ford, on Pine St., struck by lightning and destroyed by fire.
Sept. 18-20	Annual cattle show and fair of the Essex Agricultural Society.
Oct. 30.	Mass meeting at the Town Hall in honor of Topsfield's Soldiers, preceded by a street parade.
Dec. 24.	Community Christmas tree on the Common and singing of carols.

 BUILDINGS CONSTRUCTED DURING THE YEAR 1917.

William H. Bennett, Washington St., bungalow, on site of previous building destroyed by fire.
 James Duncan Phillips, Hill St., addition to barn.
 Mrs. George H. Shattuck, Wenham St., barn.
 Manley H. White, Pine St., shed remodelled into a dwelling house.
 Howard Ford, Pine St., barn.

